



Circular Letter BC03-2023

Date: 29 March 2023

**Re: RAPEX Notification (A12/00541/23) - Concrete screw ETA-17/0806**

To: National Building Control & Market Surveillance Office (NBC&MSO)  
The Chief Executive of Louth County Council  
Director of Services for Building Control in Louth County Council  
Building Control Officers in Louth County Council  
All Building Control Officers in each Local Authority

A Chara,

1. I write in connection with correspondence received from the German Market Surveillance Authority, Deutsches Institut für Bautechnik (DIBt), regarding a RAPEX notification (A12/00541/23), for a concrete screw manufactured in Poland (Brand: Rawlplug S.A.; Product Type: R-LX-06 Product: ETA-17/0806 on the basis of EAD 330232-00-0601; DoP-17/0806-R-LX).
2. As set out in the RAPEX notification, the product does not comply with the requirements of *Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down harmonised conditions for the marketing of construction products and repealing Council Directive 89/106/EEC* (known as the Construction Products Regulation or the CPR).
3. The issue is that the concrete screws are susceptible to hydrogen embrittlement. As a result, a concrete screw may fail when people are under or next to a fastened structure, which may cause heavy elements or people to fall, leading to injuries. More information may be found in ICSMS CI: CPR230224208465.





4. The RAPEX notification outlines the measures ordered by DiBt on the economic operator to no longer make the product available on the internal market.
  
5. Given the potential seriousness in connection with the failure of this product, the Department requests that:
  - a. NBC&MSO and Louth County Council
    - take note of the RAPEX notification and the accompanying documents,
    - liaise with, Louth based, Rawlplug Ireland Ltd. to establish the risks posed to the Irish Market,
    - consider liaison with industry to raise awareness of the matter (if deemed necessary). A public version of the RAPEX notification is available, for dissemination on the European Commission's website at <https://ec.europa.eu/safety-gate-alerts/screen/webReport/alertDetail/10007984?origin=PDF> , and
    - take any other action deemed appropriate.
  
  - b. All building control authorities take note of the RAPEX notification and the accompanying documents and remain vigilant with regard to the potential installation and use of this product in buildings within their functional areas.
  
6. In this context, attached for your information are copies of the following: -
  - the letter from DiBt to DHLGH, dated 20/03/2023;
  - RAPEX notification (A12/00541/23);
  - DoP-17/0806-R-LX.

**Note:** More information may be found in ICSMS CI: CPR230224208465.



7. Further enquires about this circular should be addressed to Aisling Lynam or Victoria McCabe, Tel: (01) 8882000, or alternatively by e-mail to [buildingstandards@housing.gov.ie](mailto:buildingstandards@housing.gov.ie)

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Neary". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Sarah Neary  
Principal Adviser  
Building Standards Advisory Unit