



ETIM
UK

How ETIM is making the golden thread a reality

*ETIM, the tried and tested data model
for classifying technical product information,
is used in the UK and globally.*



"building excellence
in materials supply"



Est. 1914

Introducing ETIM

ETIM is an international, language-agnostic product data standard with an expanding global network of member countries including the UK. Originating in Europe in the 1990s, ETIM is not the only standard available but it is probably the best established standard focussing on a product's technical performance. Across the network of participating countries ETIM data is available now for hundreds of thousands of products.

ETIM underpins the improvements in efficiency, safety and environmental performance across the UK's construction supply chain. Construction sector manufacturers are increasingly adopting ETIM to ensure that the information they provide about the products they manufacture is accurate, complete, consistent and traceable.

Traceability: how ETIM makes 'the golden thread' possible

Tracing construction products through the supply chain and beyond means the risk of errors is reduced. Every point in the supply chain has a role to play.

The adoption of a consistent, structured, tried-and-tested data standard to describe a product's performance enables the products that are supplied and installed to be checked back against the original specification at every stage of a project.

For the UK that data standard is ETIM.

The interaction between wholesale distributors and merchants - whether trading in electrotechnical products or building materials - and their contractor or facilities management customers is a critical point in the construction process.

The selection of relatively minor components, for which a buyer relies on information from the distributor, can have critical safety implications.

Distributors need to understand their responsibilities in relation to building safety and the golden thread and adjust their business processes accordingly, while manufacturers need to support their distributors by providing the required product information. A key part of this support is to supply data, using the ETIM standard, which describes a product's technical performance.

Real, tangible, data-crunching progress

ETIM is happening now.

UK businesses are capturing product data every day using the ETIM classification system and it is a long-term commitment. Through the ETIM standard, the construction supply chain is making real progress to ensure the essential information about products can be accurately traced.



The golden thread is both:

- *the information about a building that allows someone to understand a building and keep it safe,*
 - and
 - *the information management to ensure the information is accurate, easily understandable, can be accessed by those who need it and is up to date.*
-

ETIM: 8 facts at a glance

1. The ETIM standard is widely used in markets across the globe. The standard is led by the ETIM International organisation from its Benelux HQ, (www.etim-international.com) supported by a network of over 20 in-country local offices including in the UK.
2. The Electrical Distributors' Association (EDA) and the Builders Merchants Federation (BMF) are lead organisations for the ETIM standard in the UK.
 - ◆ The EDA leads on the electrotechnical sector
 - ◆ The BMF leads on the building materials, HVAC and plumbing sectors
3. The ETIM classification describes a product's technical and performance attributes.
4. ETIM is not a database or repository of data, but a structure. Organisations need systems in place to manage product data and to transfer it to others along the supply chain either through peer to peer exchange or using an industry data pool.
5. Once products are ETIM classified, its underlying structure means that it is automatically translated for use in other countries.
6. The ETIM classification removes inconsistency by providing a structured classification comprising pre-defined lists of features, attributes and values.
7. ETIM evolves through product specialist Working Groups, ensuring its structure keeps pace with product development.
8. ETIM covers the full spectrum of construction products including electrotechnical, HVAC & plumbing, general building, tools, hardware & site supplies.

Find out more



ETIM
UK



www.etim-uk.co.uk



ETIM UK



"building excellence
in materials supply"



Building Materials, HVAC & Plumbing

David Bate

ETIM UK Manager

dave.bate@bmf.org.uk
02476 854980
07923 221526



Est. 1914



Electrotechnical

Richard Appleton

Head of Digitalisation

richard.appleton@eda.org.uk
020 3141 7350
07462 230902