



Range of Functions

Quality Assurance Body for Copper Tube and accessories for copper tube Installations

„Gütegemeinschaft Kupferrohr e.V.“ has the task to safeguard the high quality of copper tube and accessories for copper tube installations (capillary fittings, solders, fluxes etc.). The technical criteria are laid down in „Güte- und Prüfbestimmungen - RAL-RG 641/1-4“ (quality standards).

„Gütegemeinschaft Kupferrohr e.V.“ was founded in 1968. Products defined by national or international standards are largely under quality control by the producers themselves. Products defined by quality label of „Gütegemeinschaft Kupferrohr e.V.“ additionally have to fulfil the stronger quality standards which are checked by neutral and official testing laboratories on a yearly basis.

RAL Deutsches Institut für Gütesicherung und Kennzeichnung e.V.

The over-all organisation for the 145 German RAL - Quality Assurance Bodies

No quality label is created as an isolated label but forms part of a system supported by „RAL“. All labels follow the rules established by „RAL“. Products bearing a quality label are always up to high quality standards the full compliance with which is constantly supervised by neutral institutes.

- ➔ The respective quality criteria to be established for each product group are elaborated under the direction of „RAL“ by wide consent of all parties concerned (among others manufacturers, trade, consumers/users, testing institutes, authorities).
- ➔ For many products these quality criteria are the first exact and verifiable quality definition - also serving as a basis for bids and complaints as well as a comparison for consumers.
- ➔ The established quality criteria must encompass all important properties of the products - not just a few of them.
- ➔ Supervision and certification is done by associations of the trades formed for this purpose according to the rules set up by „RAL“. They are usually called „Gütegemeinschaft“ (Quality Assurance Body).
- ➔ These bodies must also see to it that manufacturers make proper use of the quality label in compliance with all rules of fair competition. Corresponding internal rules are set up in cooperation with „RAL“.
- ➔ All quality labels always also include the name „RAL“ and that is already what makes a distinction between the „RAL“ quality label and all the other labels so easy.
- ➔ Today, there are 145 quality labels for thousands and thousands of different products.

Copper tube and accessories are marked with the acknowledged quality label of „Gütegemeinschaft Kupferrohr e.V.“ on each single product and on the packaging.

Neutral and official testing laboratories

The inspection tests are carried out by neutral and official testing laboratories, on a regular yearly basis, following impartial characteristics which can be checked at every time. For the time being 34 companies in Germany and all over Europe have the right to use the quality label for copper tube and accessories.

DVGW Deutscher Verein des Gas- und Wasserfaches e.V.

„Gütegemeinschaft Kupferrohr e.V.“ co-operates strongly with „DVGW Deutscher Verein des Gas- und Wasserfaches e.V.“. This is the over-all organisation of all German Water and Gas Works. It acknowledges the inspection test of „Gütegemeinschaft Kupferrohr e.V.“. All companies which have the right to use the quality label of „Gütegemeinschaft Kupferrohr e.V.“ may also use the separated quality label of „DVGW Deutscher Verein des Gas- und Wasserfaches e.V.“, provided they have applied for it.

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