

Koenraad De Maertelaere

Koen started his career at the end of the year 2001.

He joined his Older brother Erwin in a young inspection company called Kinderspel, which translates as Childsplay in English. Koen took Kinderspel 100% under his wings somewhere around 2005.

From day one, Koen was convinced that children should be allowed to explore their capabilities through challenging play. Acceptable risk has always been at the heart of his vision on playground safety.

Just a couple of years later Koen joined the Belgian non-profit organization Speelom to become the head lecturer on risk assessment. Over all these years Koen has trained more than 700 inspectors in Belgium alone.

Koen joined the Belgian standardisation institute NBN in 2007.

Koen is an active member of:

- CEN/TC 136/SC1 Playground equipment (Head of delegation)
- CEN/TC 136/SC 1 WG1 Surfacing
- CEN/TC 136/SC1 WG15 Revision of EN1176-7 (Convenor)
- CEN/TC 136/SC1 WG17 Framework document competences of playgrounds inspectors (Convenor)
- ISO/TC 83 WG8 Playground equipment (working as the project leader on a document on inspection and maintenance)

In 2016 Koen received an award for his standardization work on the standards on playground equipment from the chairman of NBN. This award emphasized the importance of the work done by Koen as a SMB owner.