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fipinformation

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PED: Pressure Equipment Directive 97/23/EC

Position and programs of FIP Formatura Iniezione Polimeri SpA

1. The PED Directive

The PED 97/23/EC is a Directive of the European Parliament and of the European Council of 29th May 1977, for incorporation into the laws of the Member States, regarding pressure equipment.

Note: it is a law, not a standard. As a consequence the compliance to it is mandatory.

The transition period for introduction will expire on 29th May 2002.

After that date, all products falling under the PED (see point 2), will have **to be CE marked,** in order to be legally placed on the market in Europe. In addition, they must be **accompanied by a Declaration of Conformity and must fulfil all the requirements of the PED , depending upon the specific product and the relevant application Category, (see point 2).**

Note: the wording "placed on the market" means "released (shipped) from the manufacturing site ".

2. Products referred to by the PED

For the purpose of the PED, "Pressure equipment" means vessels, piping, safety accessories and pressure accessories.

Pressure equipment covered by the PED is defined in Article 3, clause 1, and must satisfy the essential safety requirements set out in Annex I. Pressure equipment is classified by categories, in Annex II of the PED.

Coming to our sector:

Piping:

With regard to piping, individual components such as **pipes and fittings do not fall under PED.**

Completed installations, built up by assembling pipes and fittings into pipework systems, are covered by the PED, according to their application conditions.

Valves are covered by the PED even as plant components, because they are assemblies and they actively influence safety under pressure.

3. The FIP products

All FIP valves with DN greater than 25 are covered by the PED, when used with fluids under the conditions specified by the Directive.

Most FIP valves are classified in Category I, where self-certification and CE marking are required, but approval by a Notified Body is not necessary. However, our Company decided to obtain Notified Body approval for the production process and for the technical documentation of all FIP valves.

We shall proceed as follows:

3.1. Marking

All valves produced since 2nd April 2002 will be marked CE1115, to identify the Notified Body approval. Marking will be on the valve body and on the package label.

All valves produced before 2nd April 2002, and placed on the market (shipped from FIP) after 29th May 2002, will be marked just CE, without indication of the Notified Body. This complies with the PED, for products **classified in Category I**. The marking will be by use of a sticker.

3.2. Declaration of Conformity and Instructions

All FIP valves are supplied with an Instruction Sheet, complying with the requirements of the Directive. Progressively, these **Instruction Sheets will include the Declaration of conformity to the PED.**

4. Remarks

4.1 Technical Characteristics of the products

The CE Mark, and all the requirements of the PED, does not change the technical, physical and chemical characteristics as recorded in the FIP technical documentation, for each product range.

Also, the PED Category to which a particular application belongs, does not change either the suitability (or otherwise) of a product for that application. Suitability continues to be determined, for each product, by the technical characteristics mentioned above.

4.2 Products in stock

Products without CE mark, that are already in stock at Customers premises, or in Distributors warehouses, on 29th May 2002, can still be sold and used without restriction, because they have been delivered from the manufacturer (placed on the market) before that date.

Note: As already stated , the products do not change because of the PED.

4.3 **Modifications**

Any modifications made to the valve, after delivery by the manufacturer, will cancel the manufacturer's technical responsibility, and, as a consequence the responsibility for CE marking.
The Directive transfers responsibility to the person (or organisation) making the modification.

In particular, when components are added to the valve, such as flanges or actuators, **the marking of the assembly will be the responsibility of the person (or organisation) making the addition.**

In the above cases, the Customer or Distributor will have the right to CE mark the final product, according to the self-certification procedure allowed by the PED, for products in Category I.

The information contained in this document is supplied in good faith and is deduced from the contents of the PED, from relevant guidelines and from the current interpretation that is shared by the Notified Body and by the trade association to which we belong.
The official reference document is the PED 97/23/EC itself.

For further information about PED, the official web site is **http:// ped.eurodyn.com**

For further information about the FIP position and actions, you can ask our Quality Assurance Office at Casella and / or, by e-mail, at the following address: infoped@fipnet.it