

STATEMENT

Last update: May-2011



Pressure Equipment Directive 97/23/EC

On May 29, 1997 the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union adopted Directive 97/23/EC on the approximation of laws of the Member States concerning Pressure Equipment (PED).

ASERCOM has involved a Notified Body in the interpretation and implementation of this directive with respect to compressors produced by *ASERCOM* members and obtained the following assessment:

- According to Par. 3.6. Article 1 of the PED motor-compressors classified as no higher than category I of the PED are excluded from the scope of the Pressure Equipment Directive because these compressors are falling into the scope of the Low Voltage Directive 73/23/EEC.
- According to Par. 3.10. Article 1 of the PED, semi-hermetic and open-type compressors are, under certain conditions, excluded from the scope of the Pressure Equipment Directive. Specific documents have to be prepared for these products to justify this exemption.
- For those compressors falling into the scope of the PED, *ASERCOM* has in cooperation with a notified body developed guidelines for their members how to establish compliance of these products with this directive.

The following explanations shall serve as guidance to customers of *ASERCOM* members to understand the implications of the PED upon our business:

- The PED differentiates between two GROUPS of fluids:
 - GROUP 1 is for dangerous fluids (toxic, flammable, explosive)
 - GROUP 2 is for all other fluids
- Most commonly used HFCs and HCFCs fall into group 2.
- The PED differentiates between categories of pressure equipment. Four categories are defined, differentiated by ranges of Pressure x Volume. These ranges are defined separately for each fluid group.
- The category is not indicated on the nameplate, however, this information may be obtained from the manufacturer.
- The category of the equipment is used to establish if equipment is subjected to the scope of the PED or not, and in what way compliance with the PED must be demonstrated.
- For those compressors falling into the scope of the PED, an audit by a notified body must be performed at the compressor manufacturers' plants to establish compliance with the regulations of the PED.

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- Compressors falling into the scope of the PED will demonstrate the compliance with this directive and a successful audit by putting the CE-marking and the registration number of the notified body, which performed the audit on the nameplate.
- Additionally, a Declaration of Conformity issued by the manufacturer is available if the compressor falls within the scope of the PED. This is generally not supplied with each compressor but available upon request.

These recommendations are addressed to professionals, industrial, commercial and domestic refrigeration system manufacturers / installers. They have been drafted on the basis of what *ASERCOM* believes to be the state of scientific and technical knowledge at the time of drafting, however, *ASERCOM* and its member companies cannot accept any responsibility for and, in particular, cannot assume any reliability with respect to any measures - acts or omissions - taken on the basis of these recommendations.
