009 – Mai 2004

MED – Marine Equipment Directive

Council Directive 96/98/EC as Amended

Introduction

The Marine Equipment Directive (MED) covers certain statutory equipment carried and used on ships registered under the flags of the European Union member states plus Norway and Iceland which are required to meet the 4 International Conventions developed by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) namely

- **LOADLINES** 1966
- **SOLAS** 1974 Life-saving appliances
- **MARPOL** 1973 Marine Pollution
- **COLREGS** 1972 Prevention of Collisions

The Directive is mandatory for equipment supplied for use on ships from January 1,1999 classed as:

- New Community ships
- Existing Community ships whether for the first time or to replace equipment already carried on board

The Directive does not apply to

- equipment already placed on board a ship before January 1,1999

Amendments are made to the above Directive by Commission Directives to reflect amendments by IMO made to the Conventions and associated Codes by IMO Resolutions and Circulars.

The purpose of the directive is to enhance safety at sea and the prevention of marine pollution through the uniform application of the relevant international instruments and to ensure the free movement within the European economic Area (EEA) consisting of the EU and EFTA Member States – Norway and Iceland.

The objective of the commission for energy and transport DG TREN was the harmonisation of the application of international safety standards for the design, construction and acceptance procedure of marine equipment in the Community.

Each Member State or the organisations acting on its behalf must ensure, when issuing or renewing the relevant safety certificates, that the equipment on board the ship flying its flag complies with the requirements of the Directive. Member states may not prevent the equipment referred to in Annex A.1 and complying with the provisions of the Directive from being placed on their national markets or placed on board an EU ship.

Annex A

The annex A is divided into two sections A.1 and A.2 and only equipment listed under A.1 is required to be certified in accordance with the MED. Those items listed in A.2 must comply with national requirements.

Annex A.1

Annex A.1 lists equipment that requires the assistance of a Notified Body for conformity assessment.

A.1/1.x	Live-saving appliances	SOLAS 74
A.1/2.x	Marine Pollution Prevention	MARPOL
A.1/3.x	Fire Protection	FTP Code
A.1/4.x	Navigation Equipment	SOLAS 74
A.1/5.x	Radio Communication Equipment	SOLAS 74

while x represents a particular equipment item.

Along with the specific item designation, this Annex lists the applicable regulations (e.g. SOLAS, MARPOL) and international testing standards that must be used and the Modules for conformity assessment.

Annex A.2

Annex A.2 lists equipment for which no detailed testing standards exist in International instruments and as such will require the application of relevant national standards. Therefore, there are no specific conformity assessment requirements: It is envisaged that eventually all items of equipment in Annex A.2 will be transferred to Annex A.1 after establishing harmonised standards either through IMO or ISO.

Annex B

Annex B of the Marine Equipment directive gives details of the various Modules.

Module B – EC Type Examination

Conformity is initially demonstrated when one or more prototypes of a design have been independently witnessed as having been satisfactorily tested thus confirming that the performance parameters applicable to equipment of that type have been achieved.
Therefore EC Type Examination is a prerequisite for conformity assessment of production.
The standards to which the prototype was constructed then form the "benchmark" against which all subsequent production of the design will be measured to ensure that they also achieve the same or better performance parameters.

In the majority of cases a Module B Certificate is necessary and must quite often be used in combination with one of the other Production Modules – D, E, and F.

It should be noted that the Notified Body issuing EC – Type Examination Certificate (Module B) need not necessarily also be the Notified Body issuing the production certification.

Module D – Production Quality Assurance

Applicable primarily to those manufacturers having large throughput, production Modules D and E require a manufacturer to operate an approved Quality Management System (QMS) closely similar to ISO 9000 for production, final product inspection and testing, and that the products conform to the type as described in the EC – Type Examination Certificate (Module B).

The manufacturer must lodge an application for assessment of his quality system with a Notified Body of his choice for the products concerned.

Module E – Product Quality Assurance

This is to ensure that documented procedures are used to confirm after manufacture that all production has resulted in equipment items which meet the "benchmark" standard of the prototype to which a Module B certificate was awarded. This is normally achieved through a post-production testing regime.

The use of either of theses two Modules allows the manufacturer to issue final documents without the presence of a Notified Body.
However the MED does not require the Notified Body to monitor the manufacturer's operation of the QMS at regular and/or variable intervals.

Module F – Product Verification

This is intended for manufacturers whose production is mainly in smaller batches or lots of the same or differing item designation.

Under Module F the Notified Body has to be advised in advance of intended production and normally experienced Surveyors who may or may not also be the Assessors will attend to examine the batches and select samples.

Module G – Unit Verification

For a very few types of equipment, usually of a one-off nature, Module G is applicable. In this case no Module B is applicable Module G requires that all Prototype Tests are conducted on every individual product, followed by whatever Production Tests are required by the applicable Standards.
The Notified Body will conduct surveys during construction and witness tests.

Certificate of Conformity

If all is found to be in order the Notified Body will issue the manufacturer with a Certificate of Conformity listing batch and serial numbers. This document is the manufacturer's authorisation from the Notified Body to affix the "Wheelmark" to his products.

Declaration of Conformity

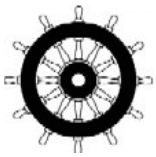
The manufacturer may then issue his own Declaration of Conformity for his customers detailing amongst other descriptive and prescribed data, the Conformity Route used (the numbers both the Module B Certificate and that of the Certificate of Conformity).

A manufacturer's Declaration of Conformity is a descriptive document which as a minimum for clarity should describe the product, State the MED's Annex A.1 Item No. and Item Designation, and should also include:

- Manufacturer's Name & Address
- Description of the Product; Type and Code
- List the Standards with which it is declared to comply
- Notified Body authorising the affixing of the "Wheelmark"; Name and Address
- Conformity Route used
- EC - Type Examination Certificate No. (unless Module G used)
- Certificate of Conformity No. (for QMS when Modules D or E)
- Serial numbers and batch/lot identification (if applicable)
- Identification of signatory and their authority to sign the Document of Conformity

There is no standard format for the Declaration of Conformity.

The Mark of Conformity



The format of the Mark of Conformity or "Wheelmark" is specified in Annex D of the MED. It is the sign that the product is declared by its manufacturer to conform to the type and therefore be in compliance with the 4 Conventions developed by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO).

The Mark has to be followed by the identification number of the Notified Body which has performed the conformity assessment procedure of the production control phase, and by the last two digits of the year in which the mark is affixed.

Amendments to the "Wheelmark" Directive

Directive	Office Journal	Date
96/98/EC	L 046	17-02-1997
Corrigendum	L 246	10-09-1997
Corrigendum	L 241	29-08-1998
98/85/EC	L 315	25-11-1998
2001/53/EC	L 204	28-07-2001
2002/75/EC	L 254	30-09-2002

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NB Notified Bodies by country

Denmark

Force
ID No. 0200
www.force.dk

DIFT
ID No. 0845
www.brandtekniske-institute.dk

Finland

FIOH
ID No. 0403
www.ttl.fi

VTT
ID No. 0809
www.vtt.fi

France

BV
ID No. 0062
www.bureauveritas.com

Interspace
ID No. 0880
http://interspace.fr

CNMIS
ID No. 1112
www.cnmis.org

Germany

BSH
ID No. 0735
www.bsh.de

SeeBG
ID No. 0736
www.see-bg.de

Italy

Giordano
ID No. 0407
www.giordano.it

Italcert
ID No. 0426
www.italcert.it

RINA
ID No. 0474
www.rina.it

Luxemburg

GL Luxemburg
ID No. 0801

Netherlands

TNO
ID No. 0336
www.nmi.nl

Telefication
ID No. 0560
www.telefication.nl

ECB
ID No. 0614
www.ecb.nl

LRR
ID No. 0676
www.lr.org

NKK
ID No. 0849
www.classnk.nl

Norway

DNV
ID No. 0575
www.dnv.com

Nemco
ID No. 0883
www.norsert.com

NBL
ID No. 1084

Sweden

SP ID No. 0402
www.sp.se

United Kingdom

LR ID No. 0038
www.lr.org

BSI ID No. 0086
www.bsi-global.com

QINETIQ
ID No. 0191
www.QinetiQ.com

INSPEC
ID No. 0194
www.inspec-international.com

BTTG
ID No. 0338

ABS Europe
ID No. 0729
www.eagle.org

LPCB
ID No. 0832
www.brecertification.com

WFRC
ID No. 1121
www.wfrc.co.uk