

An “initial” consultation document on a proposal for a Directive on Machinery

Key points of new Proposal	<p>The European Commission has proposed a new Directive on Machinery, amending Directive 95/16/EC (COM (2000) 889), as amended by (COM (2003) 48).</p> <p>The proposal aims at simplifying the approval and testing procedures, updating the technical prescriptions and at extending the scope of the Directive to portable cartridge operated impact machinery and construction site lifts.</p> <p>The proposed Directive is a recast of the present Directive on Machinery (98/37/EC) and will also introduce amendments to the Lifts Directive (95/16/EC).</p> <p>The main elements of the proposal are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - better definition of the scope of the directive, clarification of the borderline with other directives, in particular the Low Voltage and the Lifts Directives, and a clearer description of the concept of “Partly Completed Machinery”; - strengthening of the provisions relating to market surveillance and to the notification of conformity assessment bodies; and - introduction of a full quality assurance procedure for certain categories of machinery. <p>Further information is available on the Commission’s website: http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/mechan_equipment/machinery/direct/proposal.htm</p>
Background	<p>The proposal extends the present scope of Directive 98/37/EC to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Portable cartridge-operated devices, such as fixing tools, stuning pistols, marking guns etc., where the cartridge is not direct-acting and which are designed for industrial or technical purposes only. Appliances in which the cartridge is direct-acting are considered as firearms and remain outside the scope of the Machinery Directive; 2) Construction site hoists intended for lifting persons or persons and goods; and 3) Devices for lifting of persons with reduced mobility. <p>The revision of the Machinery Directive mainly includes the following proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proposed Directive only applies to complete ready-for-use machines. Partly-completed machinery will be required to be accompanied by the declaration of incorporation in its present form and by assembly instructions which must be part of the technical file of the machine; - Clarification of the relationship between the Low Voltage Directive (73/23/EEC) and the Machinery Directive to avoid the danger of overlapping; - Amendments to the list of machines for which more stringent conformity assessment needs to be applied; and - Addition of a full quality assurance procedure to the present possibilities for conformity assessment. This will enable a manufacturer to establish a quality assurance system rather than submit every new machinery for an EC type-examination by a notified body.
Who will be affected	Manufacturers and importers of machinery.
What will be affected	Construction site hoists for lifting persons or persons and goods; portable cartridge-operated fixing and other impact machinery used for industrial and technical purposes; lifting appliances for persons with impaired mobility (with a speed less than 0.15 m/s); and machinery listed in Annex IV of the Directive.
Dates	Feed back to arrive at our offices by 1st November, 2005.

WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK:

a) Are you a manufacturer or importer of machinery? Please identify yourself.

b) If you are a manufacturer or importer, what types of machinery do you produce/import?

c) What in your opinion would be the negative consequences of the proposed legislation? Please explain.

d) Please provide any further comments below:

e) Request a “one-to-one” meeting?

Yes No

f) Please insert your contact details:

Full name and Surname:

Company:

Telephone no.:

Fax no.:

e-mail:

g)

Signature _____

Date _____

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