

Guideline

2/11

CLAP

FORM N°139

Version : 2

Directive 97/23/EC

Keywords :

Module

Conformity assessment

Category

Directive references:

Article 10 § 1.4 - 97/23 EC

Annex II - 97/23 EC

Annex III - 97/23 EC

Adopted by WPG: 08/11/2000

Adopted by CLAP: 08/11/2000

Subject: Conformity assessment – Application of a module from a higher category

Question: When is it possible for a manufacturer to apply a module from a higher category and what are the consequences?

Answer: Article 10 § 1.4 states that manufacturers can choose to apply one of the procedures which apply to a higher category if available. The words 'if available' make it clear that if an item of pressure equipment was classified as category IV, then a module from a higher category is not available. Even for those tables in Annex II where categories III and/or IV are not listed, such procedures can be chosen.

The procedures available are the modules or module combinations described under Article 10 § 1.3.

If a module (or a module combination) from a higher category is chosen, all the requirements of that module must be met, including the marking of the identification number of the Notified body.

However, the use of a module (or a module combination) from a higher category does not change the actual classification of the equipment. The requirements of Annex I are those resulting from the actual classification unless the module itself gives specific requirements.

See also CLAP 140 - Guideline 2/18.

NOTE: When particular modules are explicitly referenced in the text of the directive, they cannot be substituted, as for example in Table 4 of Annex II.

Modifications compared to the previous adopted version: Editorial correction on 2004-09-16.