

Guideline

2/23

CLAP

FORM N°197

Version : 3

Directive 97/23/EC

Keywords : Solar panel

Vessel

Overheating

Exchanger

Temperature

Directive references: Article 3 § 1 - 97/23 EC

Article 3 §3 - 97/23 EC

Annex II - 97/23 EC

Adopted by WPG: 31/03/2006

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Subject: Scope – Solar panel

Question: How should a solar panel be classified?

Answer: This pressure equipment shall be considered as a heat exchanger containing super-heated or hot water (with or without additives).

Only when a solar panel in its entirety is designed to withstand the highest possible temperatures (stagnation conditions are within the normal operation range), a risk of overheating does not occur (see CLAP 196 - Guideline 2/22). As a consequence the classification shall be made using table 2, Annex II (see CLAP 126 - Guideline 2/13).

See also CLAP 56 - Guideline 2/4.

NOTE: A typical solar panel would be classified as Article 3 § 3 equipment, due to the maximum allowable pressure and volume.

Modifications compared to the previous adopted version: Copy of guideline 2/23 (31/03/06).