

Guideline

1/57

CLAP

FORM N°303

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Directive 97/23/EC

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Vessels

Directive references:

Article 1 § 2.2 - 97/23 EC

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Subject: Scope – Vessels under vacuum conditions

Question: Are vessels designed to operate under vacuum conditions in the scope of the PED?

Answer: No.

However if there are other foreseeable conditions such as cleaning, transport, maintenance etc. where the vessel is subject to a pressure greater than 0,5 bar, the PED does apply.

See also Guideline 1/2 (CLAP 99), 1/13 (CLAP 74) and 8/7 (CLAP 94).

Reason: According to Article 1 the PED directive applies to the design, manufacture and conformity assessment of pressure equipment and assemblies with a maximum allowable pressure PS greater than 0,5 bar.

Further, section 2.2 defines pressure relative to atmospheric pressure, i.e. gauge pressure. As a consequence, vacuum is designated by a negative value.