

Guideline

1/15

CLAP

FORM N°54

Version : 4

Directive 97/23/EC

Keywords :

Valve

Pressure accessory

Operational function

Operating instruction

Directive references:

Article 1 § 2.1.4 - 97/23 EC

Adopted by WPG: 08/11/1999

Adopted by CLAP: 08/11/1999

Subject: Scope – Operational function of a pressure accessory

Question: Is the operational function of a pressure accessory, as described in article 1 § 2.1.4 covered by the directive?

Answer: Yes, if a pressure related hazard is identified in relation with the operational function of the pressure accessory (see also CLAP 72 - Guideline 1/8).

Examples for valves:

- Where a valve is intended to be used as the sole mean of isolation of the content of an item of pressure equipment from the atmosphere, or from downstream equipment which is not designed to withstand the upstream pressure, the internal parts of the valve which contribute to the isolation must satisfy the relevant essential safety requirements in Annex 1 ;
- Where a valve is intended to be fitted between a pressure vessel and pressure piping and both are designed to contain pressure, no pressure related hazard exist in relation to the operational function of the valve, therefore internal parts of the valve do not have to satisfy the relevant essential safety requirements in Annex 1.

The intended use of the valve shall be described in the operating instructions, and where it is to be used as a sole mean of isolation, it shall meet the essential safety requirements of the directive.

Modifications compared to the previous adopted version: copy of guideline 1/15 (08/11/99) and editorial correction on 2004-09-16.