

A&H ENG Information

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New EU regulation on PPE

Throughout the European Economic Area, Council Directive 89/686/EEC relating to personal protective equipment has been replaced by regulation (EU) 2016/425 on PPE.

This new EU regulation has become immediately effective for all EU member states, while Switzerland will adopt it in their new Ordinance of the Swiss Federal Council on the safety of personal protective equipment (RS 930.115).

Products in conformity with the still operative directive 89/686/EEC on PPE can only be marketed until April 20th 2019.

From April 21st 2019 forward, only PPE in conformity with the specifications described in regulation (EU) 2016/425 or RS 930.115 can be placed on the market.

Products already compliant with the new regulation can be put into circulation as of April 21st 2018 (i.e. one year of transition period from the old to the new certification criteria).

The limit of validity of EU type-examination certificates (EU-BMB) has been set at a maximum of 5 years (renewal possible).

The relevant European Harmonised Standards (ENs) relating to PPE against falls from a height, which are relevant for our products and are partly quoted in EASA CM-CS-005 on PCDS, have been adopted in regulation (EU) 2017/425.

Possibly, regulation (EU) 2016/425 might have formal consequences on the wording of EASA CM-CS-005 on PCDS. If this should be the case, EASA will adapt the pertinent documents where necessary and publish the revised versions.

Time schedule

Time schedule	2017	2018	2019	2022	2023
Validity of Directive 89/686/EEC	until 20.04.2018				
Validity of regulation (EU) 2016/425		as of 21.04.2018			
Placing on the market of 89/686/EEC products	until 20.04.2019				
Placing on the market of (EU) 2016/425 products		as of 21.04.2018			
Validity of EG-BMB* compliant with 89/686/EEC				until 21.04.2023	
Validity of EU-BMB** compliant with (EU) 2016/425		as of 21.04.2018; limit of validity 5 years			max. 5 years
Entry into force of Swiss Ordinance RS 930.115 on PPE		as of 21.04.2018; max. 5 years			

* EG-BMB: EC type examination certificate(s)

** EU-BMB: EU type examination certificate(s)

What does this mean for our clients?

For the time being, the amendments will not affect our clients or products and no measures will have to be taken;

The period of validity of EC or EU type examination certificates is not tantamount to the lifetime of products as indicated on their label;

EC or EU type examination certificates (EG- or EU-BMB) are only decisive at the moment of the products' first placing on the market. Technical modifications or legal amendments occurring after a product has been placed on the market have no effect on the product in question ¹⁾;

Products such as our helicopter rescue bag models 9319X, 9319X1, 922X, the TYRAH AR rescue triangle and others, whose EC type examination certificate is already limited to 5 years, can be used without restrictions up to the expiry of their life span (Exp-Date);

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At the moment of expiry of the aforementioned life time, all EC type examination certificates must be renewed in compliance with the new European regulation 2016/425/EU

- Rescue bag models 9319X and 9319X1 with EC type examination certificate (EG-BMB) n° E 6857/2, valid until 31.08.2020
- Rescue bag model 922X with EC type examination certificate (EG-BMB) n° E 7111, valid until 31.10.2021
- Rescue device MERS2 with EC type examination certificate (EG-BMB) n° 1110, valid until 20.04.2019
- Rescue triangle TYRAH AR with EC type examination certificate (EG-BMB) n° 201-3530, valid until 01.04.2022

All other EC type examination certificates (EG-BMB) obtained by A&H and related to lanyards (BS_1_1_Y, BKS_2_ECW, BKS_3_SPW, RTK_2_Y, etc.) must be renewed by 20.04.2019;

An exception to this rule is the expiry of a product's life span (Exp-Date) before the deadline fixed on 19.04.2019. In this case, as of 21.04.2018, the product in question can be certified in compliance with new regulation (EU) 2016/425.

Please note:



- EC type examination certificates (**EG-BMB**) are compliant with the old directive 89/686/EEC
- EU type examination certificates (**EU-BMB**) are compliant with the new regulation 2016/425/EU

Questions and contact

We will inform our customers around 6 months before the expiry of their EG-BMB certificates, so we can talk about the possibility of adjusting the specifications contained.

If, for reasons yet unknown, the necessity should arise to take any formal or technical measures, we will of course give notice to our customers and discuss the situation.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

1) the only exception to this rule is the assessment of serious product defects or when manufacturing regulations are made stricter (see corrective measures as described in art. 8(9) of regulation (EU) 2016/425



Please also check the links and documents under the menu item A&H ENG of our website.



www.nsbiv.ch
www.sibe.ch
www.bg-verkehr.de
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