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The letters 'CE' appear on many products that are traded on the single market in the European Economic Area (EEA), consisting of the 27 member states of the EU and European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. The CE marking is required for many construction products and attests the verification by a manufacturer that these products meet EU safety, health or environmental requirements.

## **A product's compliance with EU legislation**

CE marking is a key indicator of a product's compliance with EU legislation and enables the free movement of products within the European market. By affixing the CE marking on a product, a manufacturer is declaring, on his sole responsibility, conformity with all of the legal requirements to achieve CE marking and therefore ensuring validity for that product to be sold throughout the EEA, the 27 member states of the EU and European Free Trade Association countries - Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Turkey. This also applies to products made in third countries which are sold in the EEA and Turkey. However, not all products must bear the CE marking. Only those product categories subject to specific directives that provide for the CE marking are required to be CE marked. One such requirement that renders the CE mark mandatory is that the product is manufactured under a *harmonised* European Standard.

CE marking does not indicate that a product was made in the EEA, but merely states that the product is assessed before being placed on the market and thus satisfies the legislative requirements, eg a harmonised level of safety, to be sold there. It means that the manufacturer has verified that the product complies with all relevant essential requirements, eg health and safety requirements, of the applicable directive(s) or, if stipulated in the directive(s), had it examined by a notified conformity assessment body.

It is the manufacturer's responsibility to:

- carry out the conformity assessment
- set up the technical file
- issue the EC Declaration of Conformity (DoC)
- affix CE marking on a product

Distributors must verify the presence of both the CE marking and the necessary supporting documentation. If the product is being imported from a third country, the importer has to verify that the manufacturer outside the EU has undertaken the necessary steps and that the documentation is available upon request.

## **Products that need CE marking**

CE marking ensures the free movement of products that conform to the legislation - eg safety, health and environmental protection - within the European market and is a key indicator of a product's compliance with EU legislation. CE marking is now mandatory, but only for those products which are covered by the scope of one or more harmonised standard. Even if your product is manufactured outside the EEA, you must ensure the product bears CE marking if your product comes under the scope of a Directive requiring CE Marking.

### **Manhole covers and gratings are currently exempt.**

Manhole covers and gratings come under European Standard EN124. At present this standard is NOT harmonised, and will not become so until sometime in 2014. Until it becomes a harmonised standard any products manufactured under it would be prohibited from carrying the CE mark.

**Surface boxes** to BS 750 and BS EN 5834, **chambers**, and **shimpac** are also currently exempt.

### **Products that do require a CE mark include Kessell valves, some bedding products and some linear drainage.**

Durey Castings Limited is aware of its obligations and you can be assured that we already comply with the legislation.

### **The manufacturer's Declaration of Conformity**

The EC DoC is a document which may be required to accompany a product and in which the manufacturer, or his authorised representative within the EEA, indicates that the product meets all the necessary requirements of the directives applicable to the specific product. The DoC shall also contain name and address of the manufacturer together with information about the product, such as brand and serial number. The DoC must be signed by an individual working for the manufacturer or his authorised representative, and the employee's function shall also be indicated.