



Directives and legislation

Information on this page is for German and other European customers

EC Directive 2006/42/EC (Machinery Directive)

The directive regulates a unified protection level for accident prevention when bringing machinery into circulation inside the European Economic Area (EEA).

This Machinery Directive is supposed to reduce non-tariff barriers in the Union. Like all directives decreed on the basis of the EC Treaty, the Machinery Directive does not have any direct effect. It needs to be converted into national law. In Germany, this has been done by the Equipment and Product Safety Act (Geräte- und Produktsicherheitsgesetz (GPSG)) and the Machinery Directive based there on (9th GPSGV).

From **29 December 2009** the new Machinery Directive is to be applied in a binding fashion. Up to this time, the directive 98/37/EC still applied.

Essentially, the following changes were made:

- clearer restriction of the area of application for the low-voltage directive and for the lift directive
- incomplete machinery are included in the area of application. Which directive requirements were satisfied can be found in the related documents. Included in the scope of delivery are a declaration of installation and assembly instructions written in the language of the country.
- the basic health and safety requirements were modified to meet technical advances made
- selection options for conformity assessment procedure for machinery with particularly high danger rating (see Attachment 4 of the directive)
- safety components receive the CE marking
- inclusion of household devices also commercially used provided they fulfil the machine definition

→ These products from the R264 catalogue can be used to implement this directive

DIN 580, DIN 582, DIN 7964 and R264 - ARTICLE numbers 88151, 88152 and 88153

Equipment and Product Safety Act (Geräte und Produktsicherungsgesetz (GPSG))

The German Equipment and Product Safety Act (GPSG) obligates manufacturers, importers and traders to bring only into circulation such work equipment and consumer products which were made in such a way that they do not endanger the health and safety of either users or third parties when used properly.

The GPSG is directed at those persons who are active either commercially or as part of an economic enterprise.

The GPSG brings together the former Equipment Safety Act (GSG) and Product Safety Act (ProdSG). It serves to convert the European Product Safety Directive RL 2001/95/EC into national law.

In the GPSG, a series of European directives has been converted into German law.

For example, this affects the following directives:

1. GPSGV: Low-voltage Directive 2006/95/EC
2. GPSGV: Toys Directive 88/378/EEC
6. GPSGV: Simple Pressure Vessels Directive 87/404/EEC
7. GPSGV: Directive on appliances burning gaseous fuels 90/396/EEC
8. GPSGV: Directive on personal protective equipment 89/686/EEC
9. GPSGV: Machinery Directive 98/37/EC
10. GPSGV: Recreational Craft Directive 94/25/EEC
11. GPSGV: ATEX Product Directive 94/9/EC
12. GPSGV: Lift Directive 95/16/EC
13. GPSGV: Directive on aerosol dispensers 75/324/EEC
14. GPSGV: Pressure equipment directive 97/23/EC