

To our customers

18 June 2002/MA/Rma

SERTO Unions: Pressure Equipment Directive and CE Marking

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen

The European Pressure Equipment Directive PED 97/23/EC has been definitively in effect since 29th May 2002, thereby taking on a legal character in the EU Area.

In conjunction with this development we have increasingly been confronted with the circumstance that SERTO products are only taken into consideration if they bear the CE mark.

This entire subject matter is still marked by widespread uncertainty, even in the EU area.

As a major European machine and industrial equipment industry supplier we gladly present our standpoint as follows:

The EU directive PED 97/23/EC sets forth clear demarcations explicitly in the case of piping systems and the components thereof. These demarcations are derived in particular from the product of nominal size (DN) and maximum admissible pressure (PS). The significance for SERTO is concretely:

- In compliance with PED 97/23/EC, Art. 3, Para. 3, Piping with $DN < 25$ (\equiv pipe outside diameter 28 mm) have to be designed and manufactured (including manufacturer's identification on the product) according to sound engineering practice. Also stipulated as mandatory is that these unions are **not** allowed to bear the CE mark.
- According to PED 97/23/EC piping with $DN \geq 25$ theoretically need a CE marking and a declaration of conformity.

However, the supplementary guideline 1/9 (approved on 28th June 1999) clearly establishes that piping systems, parts thereto, as well as the components thereof, do not correspond to the definition of pressure equipment in Art. 1, Para. 2.1, and may hence not bear the CE mark.

Consequently: SERTO unions are not subject to the CE marking obligation.

In addition, in the opinion of the EU Commission and applicable legal practice the manufacturer of machines himself carries the responsibility for the selection of the parts which he installs in the machine.

In case of doubt, you, as a customer who needs a CE mark or a declaration of conformity according to EU Directives, are required to ensure that accessory parts which are not subject to the Directives comply with the rules of the technical art with regard to safety. In our case this can be confirmation or licensing by an a recognized institution such as TNO, Det Norske Veritas, SWGW, DVGW etc. or ISO 9001.

SERTO AG

p i p i n g s y s t e m s

For our product range, in the future other relevant guidelines can naturally also be of significance, possibly in markets with high requirements on hygiene or safety etc.

On the basis of the very wide spectrum of application possibilities of our products however, this must be specified by you in detail in each individual case.

Hoping that the foregoing will serve you as a basis for further decisions, we stand at your disposal at any time in case you should have any additional questions.