



Technical Information

Remarks about EC Declaration of Conformity and CE marking of fabric expansion joints

RAL-GZ 719

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1. Remark about the Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC

The Machinery Directive 2006/42/EG applies to machines and partly completed machinery. Both terms are defined in the Machinery Directive.

A fabric expansion joint does not constitute a machine as defined by the Machinery Directive (see article 2 of the Machinery Directive)

A fabric expansion joint does not constitute a partly completed machinery as defined by the Machinery Directive (see article 2g of the Machinery Directive and §46 of the guideline concerning the Machinery Directive).

According to the Machinery Directive a fabric expansion joint is a component. Rules for dealing with components are:

- Issuing an EC declaration of conformity is not permissible.
- Affixing the CE marking is not permissible.

2. Remark about the Pressure Equipment Directive 2014/68/EU

Fabric and elastomer expansion joints are usually applied in pressure ranges considerably below 0.5 bar and thus, due to the low hazard potential, not in the scope of application of the Pressure Equipment Directive.

In this case the following applies:

- Issuing an EC declaration of conformity is not permissible.
- Affixing the CE marking is not permissible.

Only at pressures of 0.5 bar a category definition and module selection has to be created based on pressure, nominal diameter and fluid group.

When the allowable pressure reaches the limit of 0.5 bar, a conformity testing must be carried out. Since fabric and elastomer expansion joints are customised, nontype-tested unique pieces, in such a case substantial additional costs need to be taken into account.

The pressure, medium and nominal width must already be specified in the enquiry. If such data is missing it shall be assumed that the expansion joints are not in the scope of application of the Pressure Equipment Directive.

**Edited by the Quality Committee of the Quality Association
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3. Remark about the Construction Products Regulation 305/2011 (EU)

According to article 2 point 1 of the Construction Products Regulation fabric expansion joints are not a necessary part of the construction works with respect to the basic requirements for construction works.

Thus:

- Issuing an EC declaration of performance is not permissible.
- Affixing the CE marking is not permissible.

4. Remark about the Directive 2014/34/EU („ATEX Directive“)

The Directive applies to products, systems and components according to article 1.

Fabric expansion joints are therefore not applicable to this Directive.

Thus:

- Issuing an EC declaration of conformity is not permissible.
- Affixing the CE marking is not permissible.

A subsequent issuance of an EC declaration of conformity or subsequent CE marking is in principal not possible.

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