



Position Paper of CEIR regarding the application of Directive 2006/42/EC to actuated valves

Introduction

Orgalime MD CG approved on 3rd of December 2007 a specific fiche concerning the application of Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC to actuated valves and valve actuators. The Orgalime Fiche is based on a proposal submitted by CEIR

The Orgalime proposal has been discussed by the Editorial Group on May 2008, inserting in the draft Guide (articles 1-2) the following statement:

...

The Machinery Directive does not apply directly to machinery components, such as, for example, valves, hydraulic cylinders or gear boxes, that do not have a specific application as such but are intended to be incorporated into machinery, although the design and construction of such components must enable the complete machinery to comply with the relevant essential health and safety requirements.

...

In order to better clarify the application of the Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC to different typologies of valves, the issue has been again tabled during the Orgalime MD CG meeting held on 3rd September 2009.

The decision resumed below shares the opinion already expressed by CEIR and it is based on the former discussion results that actuated valves and valve actuators should be considered as PCM only when explicitly intended to be incorporated into machinery.

Conclusion

- Manual valves, valves without actuating device and check valves are excluded from the scope of Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC
- In general all valves (including actuated valves and valve actuators) should not be considered as machinery in accordance to the Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC
- Furthermore, safety valves are not considered to be "safety components" which have special status under Directive 2006/42/EC
- Actuated valves and valve actuators should be considered as PCM only when are manufactured to be incorporated into machinery. Therefore actuated valves and valve actuators should be considered as PCM only when they are explicitly intended to be incorporated into machinery.
- Each manufacturer has to decide which products will have to fulfil the requirements of Directive 2006/42/EC, and will specifically indicate it in the sales documents with a declaration of incorporation.