

Guideline**2/31****CLAP****FORM N°239****Version : 5****Directive 97/23/EC****Keywords :**

Valve

Pressure accessory

Component

Piping

Assembly

Directive references:

Article 1 § 2.1.2 - 97/23 EC

Article 1 § 2.1.4 - 97/23 EC

Adopted by WPG: 18/03/2004**Adopted by CLAP:** 18/03/2004**Subject:** Classification – Joint of valves and a piping**Question:**

How to consider, in application of the Pressure Equipment Directive (PED), piping components connected together and connected also to valves, and which are the provisions for the placing on the market?

Answer:

The PED makes the distinction in article 1 paragraph 2 between pressure equipment (vessel, piping, safety accessory and pressure accessory) and assemblies.

Connecting together piping components (flanges, pipes, fittings, reducers for example) constitutes an "item of piping" (see also CLAP 73 - Guideline 1/9). The valves are pressure accessories, and not components of piping.

An item of piping, of category I and above, shall be placed on the market with the CE marking. The same applies to each valve individually.

To determine whether the joining of valves and piping constitutes an assembly to be CE-marked or not, see CLAP 167 - Guideline 3/9, CLAP 168 - Guideline 3/10 and CLAP 225 - Guideline 3/17.

Note 1: An item of piping can integrate a valve along its route. However, the valve is not considered as a piece of this item of piping. The same applies to any pressure accessory joined with a piping, for example a filter or a meter.

Note 2: The joining of valves and piping could then be integrated, by an assembly manufacturer or a user; with other items of pressure equipment to constitute a PED assembly or an installation submitted to national regulations (see CLAP 9 - Guideline 3/2). In this case, it may be useful that a contractual document specifies all the elements that the manufacturer of that joining will communicate to his purchaser to allow him to check the compliance to the essential safety requirements of the final assembly or installation.

Note 3: Some linguistic versions are unclear on the terminology used for the components making up an item of piping.

Modifications compared to the previous adopted version: Editorial correction on 2004-09-16.