

Directive 97/23/EC

Keywords :

Fluid

Classification

Group of fluids

Flammable

Directive references:

Article 9 § 2.1 - 97/23 EC

Article 9 § 2.2 - 97/23 EC

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Subject: Classification – Grouping of fluids

Question: Article 9 classifies fluids with reference to Article 2 (2) of Directive 67/548/EEC. Does this mean that all fluids classified as dangerous are group 1?

Answer: No.

Only those fluids the properties of which are cited in Article 9 paragraph 2 of the Pressure Equipment Directive (PED) are to be classified as group 1. According to the classification of Annex VI of the latest amendment of Directive 67/548/EEC they have one or more of the following risk phrases. (This list relates to the version dated November 2005)

- R2, R3 for explosive;
- R12 for extremely flammable;
- R11, R15, R17 for highly flammable;
- R26, R27, R28, R39 for very toxic;
- R23, R24, R25, R39, R48 for toxic;
- R7, R8, R9 for oxidising.

For flammable fluids, see CLAP 166 - guideline 2/20.

Note 1: The reference to the directive 67/548/EEC is used for the definitions of the risks of the substances. Annex I of this directive is not exhaustive whatever the version is. The fact that a substance is not listed in Annex I of this directive does not imply its classification in Group 1 or 2. It is advisable then to refer to the safety data sheet supplied with the product in accordance with the directive 91/155/EEC to identify whether the risks of Group 1 are included or not. The classification of substances according to directive 67/548/EEC may also be checked on the website of the European Chemical Bureau <http://ecb.jrc.it>

Note 2: Fluids which have the symbol T or T+ are not necessarily group 1. As an example, fluids that are classified carcinogenic may have the symbol T. However, they don't belong to Group 1 fluids of the PED because they are not classified toxic (e.g. 2-naphtylamine salts, index no. 612-071-00-0). In directive 67/548/EEC, the symbols and classification are not the same. The symbols are defined in article 6 of Directive 67/548/EEC (article 16 of amendment 79/831/EEC) and this article is not mentioned in Article 9 of the PED. Classification and symbols are listed separately in the lists of fluids, Directive 93/21/EEC, and amendments.

Modifications compared to the previous adopted version: Copy of the guideline 2/7 (31/03/06).