



Continental Disc
Corporation

DISC BITS

Compliments of
CDC Marketing
Department

The European Pressure Equipment Directive (PED)

Continental Disc is **FIRST AGAIN** – now offering $\text{C}\epsilon$ -marked rupture discs to the European Union

What is the PED?

The PED is one in a series of mandatory standards adopted by those countries making up the European Union (EU). Pressure Equipment Directive 97/23/EC (the PED) is intended to assure that applicable pressure equipment meets the "essential safety requirements" established by the EU. Types of pressure equipment are identified in categories based upon pressure and the nature of their use. Rupture discs are defined as pressure equipment "safety accessories" for use in equipment with a maximum allowable pressure greater than 0,5 barg. Compliance with the essential safety requirements is determined by an independent inspection organization referred to as a "European Notified Body." The notified body is responsible for determining if a manufacturer's products have been developed using sound engineering practices, if production processes and testing are carried out to assure design requirements are met, and if the manufacturer's quality system is adequate. The notified body performs annual product testing and surveillance audits to assure on-going compliance with the PED.

What is a CE Mark?

If the notified body determines that the PED requirements are being met, the manufacturer is then authorized to apply the $\text{C}\epsilon$ mark (a French acronym for European Conformity) to the product. All applicable pressure equipment installed after May 29, 2002 must carry the $\text{C}\epsilon$ mark. All C.D.C. and LAMOT rupture disc product lines (subject to the PED pressure limits and application exclusions described on back) are now available with the $\text{C}\epsilon$ mark on the rupture disc tag. TÜV-Süddeuschland, a European Notified Body, has issued "design type approval" certificates for each C.D.C. and LAMOT rupture disc type and has performed manufacturing and quality system audits to verify compliance with the PED "essential safety requirements." These certificates, dated December 12, 2000, make C.D.C. and LAMOT the first U.S. rupture disc manufacturers authorized to apply the $\text{C}\epsilon$ mark.

What does this mean?

Rupture disc manufacturers – European or otherwise – will be expected to have in place and maintain a certified quality system, and will be required to mark rupture discs with the $\text{C}\epsilon$ mark on any product which will ultimately be used in EU member jurisdictions. *Any product which does not have this marking cannot be supplied there.*

The PED becomes mandatory on May 29th, 2002; this window of compliance allows manufacturers to secure certification, and allows customers time to deplete or replace existing, non-marked inventory.

This is not to say that the mark is the only certification that will be required in all of Europe. It is possible that some of the EU member states may require further testing of pressure equipment, such

as witnessed on-site testing. The $\text{C}\epsilon$ mark is the minimum requirement for commerce within and to the EU. The policies of each member state will dictate what additional certification may be required. Plus, depending on the particular rupture disc application, compliance to other directives may be required.

Continental Disc Corporation and LAMOT Corporation stand ready to assist our representatives and customers with understanding and applying the Pressure Equipment Directive to rupture discs. On the back of this sheet you'll find more specific information on what kinds of systems will be covered by the PED. For more complete information about the PED, including a downloadable version of the text of the PED, point your web browser to: www.newapproach.org/directiveList.asp

Contact your Regional Manager with any questions or concerns you have about serving our customers' regulatory and application needs.



European Union Member States		
Austria	Great Britain	Luxembourg
Belgium	Greece	Netherlands
Denmark	Iceland*	Norway*
Finland	Ireland	Portugal
France	Italy	Spain
Germany	Liechtenstein*	Sweden

Note: Countries noted by * are not signatories to the EU, but are expected to accept the PED in their jurisdictions

What Is *Included* in the Scope of the Pressure Equipment Directive

Applies to the design, manufacture and conformity assessment of pressure equipment and assemblies with a maximum allowable pressure greater than 0,5 barg.

“Pressure equipment” means vessels, piping, safety accessories and pressure accessories, including elements attached to pressurized parts, such as flanges, nozzles, couplings, supports, lifting lugs, etc.

“Safety accessories” means devices designed to protect pressure equipment against the allowable limits being exceeded. Such devices include devices for direct pressure limitation, such as safety valves, bursting disc safety devices, buckling rods, and others.

What Is *Excluded* from the Scope of the Pressure Equipment Directive

Pipelines

Networks for the supply, distribution and discharge of water

Equipment covered by Directive 87/404/EEC on simple pressure vessels

Equipment covered by Council Directive 75/324/EEC of 20 May 1975 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to aerosol dispensers (10)

Equipment intended for the functioning of some vehicles (motor vehicles and trailers, agricultural or forestry tractors, etc.)

Equipment classified as no higher than category I under the Directive and covered by another of the Directives (Mechanical, Electrical, Medical etc.)

Items specifically designed for nuclear use, failure of which may cause an emission of radioactivity

Well-control equipment used in the petroleum, gas or geothermal exploration and extraction industry and in underground storage which is intended to contain and/or control well pressure. This comprises the wellhead (Christmas tree), the blow out preventers (BOP), the piping manifolds and all their equipment upstream

Equipment comprising casings or machinery where the dimensioning, choice of material and manufacturing rules are based primarily on requirements for sufficient strength, rigidity and stability to meet the static and dynamic operational effects or other operational characteristics and for which pressure is not a significant design factor. Such equipment may include engines - including turbines and internal combustion engines - steam engines, gas/steam turbines, turbo-generators, compressors, pumps and actuating devices

Blast furnaces

Enclosures for high-voltage electrical equipment such as switchgear, control gear, transformers, and rotating machines

Pressurized pipes for the containment of transmission systems, e.g. for electrical power and telephone cables

Ships, rockets, aircraft and mobile off-shore units, as well as equipment specifically intended for installation on board or the propulsion thereof

Pressure equipment consisting of a flexible casing, e.g. tires, air cushions, balls used for play, inflatable craft, and other similar pressure equipment

Exhaust and inlet silencers

Bottles or cans for carbonated drinks for final consumption

Vessels designed for the transport and distribution of drinks having a maximum allowable pressure not exceeding 7 barg

Equipment covered by the ADR (20), the RID (21), the IMDG (22) and the ICAO Convention (23)

Radiators and pipes in warm water heating systems

Vessels designed to contain liquids with a gas pressure above the liquid of not more than 0,5 bar

Specific C.D.C. Products:

Vent Panel, POS-A-SET®, and some CAL-VAC® (because of low pressure)

Tanksert™, ICON™, PC Cert (these fall under the Transportation Equipment Directive, mandatory on July 1, 2003)

Specials (welded assemblies) will need to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis

For more complete information about the PED, including a downloadable version of the text of the PED, point your web browser to: www.newapproach.org/directiveList.asp

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Contact the Continental
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comments or questions
about this topic.

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