



Heiko Boekhoff
Secretary

P.O. Box 71 08 64
60498 Frankfurt/Main
Germany
Phone +49 69-6603-1505
Fax +49 69-6603-2497
E-mail heiko.boekhoff@vdma.org

Frankfurt, 20 January 2016

Shows & Exhibitions – Technical Policy

Through their National Materials Handling associations, member companies and organisations exhibit products for sale on many occasions and in many different ways. It has been highlighted that in some cases equipment is being presented to the public, which does not comply with the Machinery Directive 2006/42/CE.

Additional concern has been highlighted in respect of the Directives on emissions from non-road mobile machinery, principally Directive 97/68/EC, amended by Directives 2002/88/EC; 2004/26/EC; 2006/105/EC; 2010/26/EU; 2011/88/EU; and finally Directive 2012/46/EU.

FEM-IT MC the management committee of the FEM Industrial Truck product group, would take this opportunity to remind member associations and member companies that it is their responsibility to ensure that equipment complies with relevant market legislation.

Compliance with legislation is a legal requirement on any company selling, or placing equipment into EU regulated markets for operation by an end user company – it is the responsibility of the company importing, or selling product to ensure they operate in compliance.

- a) The Machinery Directive 2006/42/CE Article 5, requires that products offered for sale are in conformity with all provisions of Annex I: of the aforementioned directive.
- b) They must ensure that the technical file referred to in Annex: VII part A is available for inspection and provides information, such as work instruction and procedures for assessing conformity in accordance with Article 12.

- c) They must provide an EC declaration of conformity in accordance with Annex II, part 1, Section A and equipment must be supplied with operating instructions in the native language. Suitable documentation should be available for inspection.

In most market areas, compliance & conformity is considered to be an issue that is suitable for self-regulation. FEM-IT MC recommends that all national associations and member companies adhere to a code of conduct that requires all products exhibited, or offered for sale can be shown to comply with legislation.

We consider that it is only fair to local manufacturers and distributors that the same standards are applied to everyone representing products for sale. At the same time we encourage our members, including those who import equipment, to participate strongly in our markets – but we do insist that this is done fairly and that every effort is made to ensure that products comply with legislation and standards.

Manufacturers may display products which are not intended to be put on the European Market, but only if marked in a way, that they can be easily identified as "not available in the EU in the current configuration".

Many of us will choose to exhibit products that are not immediately intended for sale, in the form of concept vehicles, or prototype models.

We take this opportunity to encourage member companies to display development products that can help to stimulate new ideas and encourage growth in our industries. The Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC makes specific provisions for concept vehicles and development projects.