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Expanded guide to the new Machinery Directive

MachineBuilding.net, the website for people who specify, design and build robotic applications, industrial automation and special-purpose machines, is offering members of BARA a free copy of the second edition of the MachineBuilding.net **Guide to the New Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC**.

When the new Directive comes into force on 29 December 2009 there will be no transition period, so it is essential that companies building machines or partly-assembled machines, as well as those performing final assembly or importing machinery for use in the European Economic Area, start preparing for the changes now.

This third amendment to the Machinery Directive is intended to simplify and clarify matters, but there are also other significant changes. These relate mainly to the Directive's scope, partly-completed machinery, fixings for fixed guards, and conformity assessment. In addition, there are new measures relating to 'market surveillance' (ie enforcement) and certification. Manufacturers that currently have EC type-examination certificates issued under the existing Directive need to be aware that these certificates will not be valid after 29 December 2009.

The text for the new Directive can be downloaded from the European Commission's website, but cross-checking between the new and old Directives is a laborious task. Fortunately MachineBuilding.net has done this already and produced a guide to the differences and implications.

Running to 30 pages of A4, the second edition of the guide includes the background to the new Directive, timescales, an overview, plus more detailed analysis than the first edition and comments from industry experts. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) was consulted during the preparation of this edition, so this authority's input is incorporated as well. The guide also lists sources of further information, such as a link to the text for the new Directive.

Members of BARA can request a free copy of the MachineBuilding.net **Guide to the New Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC** by following this link: <http://www.machinebuilding.net/service/mmdynpage.php?art=B0019>

Issued by

Jonathan Severn
Editor, MachineBuilding.net
editor@machinebuilding.net
<http://www.machinebuilding.net>