



EU Marine Equipment Directive (MED)

MED stands for “Marine Equipment Directive” of the European Commission (Council Directive 96/98/EC of the 20th December 1996).

The aim of the directive is to eliminate trade barriers within the European Union and the directive became effective 1st January 1999.

The effects of the directive are:

- a) EU Member State national requirements are cancelled.
- b) Any equipment is to be granted with a single Type Approval Certificate valid for all the EU Member States.
- c) Additionally, the MED Certificates are valid for these countries outside the EU:

Bulgaria	Czech Republic	Estonia
Cyprus	Hungary	Iceland
Latvia	Liechtenstein	Lithuania
Norway	Poland	Romania
Slovakia	Slovenia	

Experience has shown that the MED Certificates are well recognized by other administrations like Singapore, Australia, Korea, India, etc..

Recognition that the equipment fully complies with the requirements of the MED will be denoted by a “Ships Steering Wheel”



The “Wheel Mark” is equivalent to the “CE Mark” as known for other product families. Manufacturers of MED Type Approved Products are allowed to fix the “Wheel Mark” on their products according to Article 11 of the Directive. The MED Certificates are to be issued by “Notified Bodies” (Notified Body No.:0434). Notified Bodies are (among others) DNV, BV, ABS, LRS, SBG, Rina, etc.

ABS web site regarding MED --- <http://www.eagle.org/typeapproval/eumed.html>ⁱ