

## Notes

### TAIEX Workshop on the implementation of the Pressure Equipment Directive

27 February – 01 March 2007 in Bucharest

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Participants:

54 Romanian representatives from ministries, notified bodies and PED sector, 3 representatives from 13 Member States from ministries respectively, notified bodies and PED sector, 8 other representatives from Member States and 20 speakers.

Welcome address by Cairman Reinhard Klein, Directorate General Enterprise and Industry of the European Commission:

The EC wants to overcome the situation that some Member States instead of using harmonised EN standards (e.g. EN 13445 „Unfired Pressure Equipment“) still put a lot of efforts into their national standards/codes. This means a damage of the EN standards and should be abandoned. As EN standards are as good as other codes they should be used by industry.

Within the next 2 years, EU technical legislation will be reviewed and strongly simplified. It is under discussion, also to review the PED directive and the idea is discussed to merge the PED and SPV directives.

The discussion showed that most participants are against reviewing the PED. As long as harmonised standards are not fully accepted one should not change the PED. Also the guidelines have no legal status, the system is very well manageable. “If it is not broken, do not fix it!”

Participants think that national codes such as AD Merkblatt will disappear within the next 5-10 years and EN standards will be used.

It was controversially discussed that periodical testing is not included in the PED, also end-of-life regulations are missing. Harmonisation according to §137 of the Treaty should be accelerated.

The EC will organize a discussion on the PED in Brussels on March 28, 2007.

Zsuzsanna Dákai, European Commission, Enterprise and Industry Directorate-General, ENTR.H06 - Pressure Equipment informed that

The EC failed in their approach to receive acceptance of PED and harmonized standards with ASME: there is no will to change regulations or to accept other codes. So the EC decides to try on a lower level, means comparison of test performances using ten different test methods and eventually also welding processes and qualification. Information on impact of test methods will be ready by end 2007.

Also a workshop will take place on May 15, organized by CEN, with presentation and discussion of the differences between ASME code and PED with respect to different NDT test methods.

Edward John Haynes, CEN consultant, und Reinhard Preiss, TÜV Austria, presented among others a comparison of ASME Code and EN 13445. The results of the comparative study on Pressure Equipment Standards (EN 13445 / ASME VIII) can be found on the webpage: [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/pressure\\_equipment/standardisation/asme\\_comparative\\_study\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/pressure_equipment/standardisation/asme_comparative_study_en.html)

CEN is devoting a section of its website to pressure equipment standards, see: <http://www.cen.eu/cenorm/workarea/sectorfora/pressure+equipment/index.asp>

Hannelore Wessel  
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