

LEADING THE MARCH FOR CORRECT CE MARKING

Across all industry sectors, it is important that suppliers of pump systems offer solutions that meet the necessary regulatory requirements – including CE Marking. **flow** found out how the BPMA is helping those suppliers assess their compliance.

Conscious that the British Pump Manufacturers' Association (BPMA) is mandated to help ensure the correct standards and directives are adhered to across the pump manufacturing and supply arena, Flowtech Water Solutions was interested in the recent publicity surrounding CE Marking of pump sets, which was also reported in the last issue of *flow*.

Existing in its present form since 1985, CE Marking indicates conformity with health & safety and good environmental protection standards for products sold in the UK and the European Economic Area (EEA).

Gary Wilde, Technical Services Officer at the BPMA, has spoken at length about the fact that CE Marking is not solely incumbent upon the original pump manufacturer; it also relates to those who produce booster sets, pressurisation units, rainwater harvesting equipment, heating systems or any other bespoke pumping units.

Because these complete units are deemed to be machines 'in their own right' they must, therefore, have a CE mark affixed and be supported by all the appropriate documentation, including a Declaration of Conformity (DoC). The BPMA has highlighted a lack of understanding about who is responsible for the compliance, pointing out that it is not just the manufacturer, but also assemblers, suppliers and installers of pumping equipment. "If assemblers market the products under their own brand names, they take over the manufacturers responsibilities, and they will be assuming the legal responsibility and CE Marking of the products they build," said Gary.

A completed set should have its own identification label affixed with an appropriate CE mark and will need to comply with the correct legislation. The label needs to carry a minimum amount of information such as a serial number, product type, supply voltage and performance data along with contact details of the set builder and where the packaged set was manufactured.

As a pump, pressurisation unit, booster set and general water services supplier specialising in the building services and HVAC sector, Flowtech provides a range of standard and bespoke water booster sets and pressurisation units for the domestic and commercial market. Valuing its

quality management arrangements, the company, therefore, solicited support and guidance from the BPMA to help ensure that all its manufactured products are CE marked correctly.

Martin Donaldson, Sales Director at Flowtech Water Solutions, takes up the story: "As a BPMA member we are keen to take maximum advantage of all the services offered by our trade association, and this was especially so in this instance, given its direct relevance and importance to our business. We are proud to have compliance as an integral part of what we offer our customers."

Commenting on the guidance given to Flowtech by the BPMA, Gary said: "It was a pleasure assisting the team at Flowtech with product CE Marking. This recognises the company's desire and commitment to achieving optimum levels of compliance."

The support offered by the BPMA to its members can include a thorough review of the company's relevant documentation and paper-trails to ensure the requirements of CE Marking are being fully met. This also includes the 'set's' DoC, which must reference the appropriate legislation and EN standards where applicable.

Not only has working with the BPMA to assess its conformity offered reassurance to Flowtech's management, but it also provides evidence of its compliance with conformity, health and safety and environmental protection standards. ➔

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**Martin Donaldson –
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