FEM RACKING AND SHELVING PRODUCT GROUP

(European Racking Federation)
National Metalforming Centre
47 Birmingham Road, West Bromwich
West Midlands, B70 6PY, UK
Tel: +44 (0)121 601 6350, Fax: +44 (0)121 601 6387

Secretary General : Brian Huxley
Email: bhuxley@metcom.org.uk
Website: www.fem-eur.com

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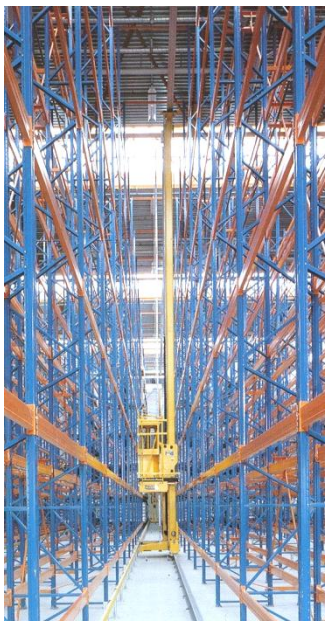
RACKING & SHELVING SYSTEMS AND THE EUROPEAN MACHINERY DIRECTIVE



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RACKING & SHELVING SYSTEMS

AND THE EUROPEAN MACHINERY DIRECTIVE

It was not always clear for which cases the European Machinary Directive is applicable to storage systems. The statements below are discussed by the German Association "Verband für Lagertechnik und Betriebseinrichtungen" with the appropriate German authorities (see Association Recommendation LB/01 from April 2010).

1. MACHINERY DIRECTIVE

As from 29.12.2009 the new Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC is to be applied. A product with the properties of Section 2a is a machine according to the Machinery Directive. Products that do not have these properties cannot and need not to be awarded by the CE mark.

In general: Racking and Shelving that is not powered (no drive system) and that is not lifting loads by directly applied human effort, is not a machine (see 2.), but could be part of a machine. The directive does not intend to have such storage equipment or their components CE-marked.

EN 15095:2006 is therefore only dealing with power-operated mobile racking and shelving, carousels and storage lifts. And excluded from the scope of that standard is storage equipment whose only power source is directly used human labour or gravity.

2. DEFINITION MACHINERY

Machinery is defined in the "Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC as follows:

- an assembly, fitted with or intended to be fitted with a drive system other than directly applied human or animal effort, consisting of linked parts or components, at least one of which moves, and which are joined together for a specific application,

- an assembly referred to in the first indent, missing only the components to connect it on site or to sources of energy and motion,

- an assembly referred to in the first and second indents, ready to be installed and able to function as it stands only if mounted on a means of transport, or installed in a building or a structure,

- assemblies of machinery referred to in the first, second and third indents or partly completed machinery referred to in point (g) which, in order to achieve the same end, are arranged and controlled so that they function as an integral whole,

- an assembly of linked parts or components, at least one of which moves and which are joined together, intended for lifting loads and whose only power source is directly applied human effort:

3. TYPICAL RACKING & SHELVING SITUATIONS

a. Hand loaded static racking and shelving operated by a freely traveling truck is not a machine according to the Directive.

b. Static racking served by a narrow aisle truck that is not connected to the racking is not a machine according to the Directive.

c. Racking in which the unit loads are moved by gravity and which is served by hand or by a freely travelling truck is not a machine according to the Directive.

d. Mobile racking and shelving that is not power driven and that is hand loaded or served by a freely traveling truck is not a machine according to the Directive.

e. *Static drive-in shuttle-operated racking is part of a machine.*

f. *Static racking and shelving that is served by a stacker crane which is laterally (and sometimes also vertically) supported by the racking or shelving is part of a machine.*

g. *Power driven mobile racking and shelving is a machine according to the Directive*.