

Marine equipment

1995/0163(SYN) - 20/12/1996 - Final act

OBJECTIVE: The purpose of the directive is (a) to enhance safety at sea and the prevention of marine pollution through the uniform application on board Community ships of the conventions of the International Maritime Organization (IMO); and (b) to ensure the free movement of such equipment within the Community.

COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Directive 96/98/EC on marine equipment.

SUBSTANCE: The directive will ensure the free movement of marine equipment within the Community as the Member States will not be able to prohibit equipment that complies with the directive being put on the Community market or on board. The directive authorizes the installation of this equipment on board ships without trials or further assessment. This will reduce the administrative and procedure costs borne by manufacturers in getting approval for the equipment. The equipment must bear a distinctive mark to show its conformity with the directive. The Member States must ensure that the notified bodies that assess the compliance of the equipment with testing standards are independent, efficient and professionally competent to carry out their tasks. The Member States may in certain cases take provisional measures to limit or prohibit the use of equipment bearing the mark of conformity. A simplified procedure must be followed for the amendment of the directive.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 17/02/1997 **DEADLINE FOR TRANSPOSITION:** 01/01/1999