



CO-ORDINATION OF NOTIFIED BODIES
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Question related to PPE Regulation

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Clause:

Key words:

certification, variant

Question:

What is the procedure to be applied to the examination of variants of a PPE?

Which criteria should be taken into account for the certificate?

Solution:

The notified body is free to decide whether it will grant extensions to existing EU type-examination certificates or it prefers issuing a new certificate for the variant to be certified.

A PPE is considered as a variant of a reference PPE only if it differs on points which have no noticeable influence on the expected performances and the safety of the user. The variants can correspond to differences relating in particular to dimensions, shape, nature of constituent materials, colour, assembly methods, manufacturing processes etc.

It is the responsibility of the notified body to evaluate for each individual case if a given PPE can effectively be considered as a variant. In case of doubt, it will carry out any check, measurement or test considered to be useful.

In every case and for each of the variants, the applicant will provide the notified body with a detailed description indicating the differences in comparison with the reference model and the number of examples of these variants required for complementary checks and tests.