



CE mark: products must comply with the requirements

The CE mark allows the free movement of products within the EEA. It is the responsibility of the manufacturer to ensure that products satisfy the EU's safety, health, environmental and consumer protection requirements. Many Finnish businesses benefit from the CE mark; their products have access to the European markets because of it.

The free movement of goods is one of the main principles and objectives of the EU internal market. In the mid-1980s the EU approved the *new approach* to technical harmonisation and standardisation. The "new approach" Directives set out essential safety, health, environmental and consumer protection requirements which affect many products in a similar way. Products manufactured in accordance with these requirements can bear the CE mark.

The new approach covers dozens of product groups, including the following:

- personal protective equipment
- lifts
- pleasure boats
- gas equipment
- computers
- toys
- measuring equipment
- gas or liquid burning heating devices
- public health service equipment and materials
- pressure equipment
- low tension equipment
- construction products
- explosive equipment
- radio and telecommunications equipment

The CE mark is the manufacturer's guarantee that the product satisfies the EU's quality requirements. Some products, such as toys can obtain the CE mark on the basis of the manufacturer's assurance without special tests. In other cases, such as dangerous machinery or personal protective equipment, the mark is only allowed after tests by an external institution. In Finland, product tests are carried out by Inspecta Oy, the Agriculture and Foods Research Centre (MTT), SGS Fimko Oy, Sähkötekniikka-Fimtekno Oy, the Technical Inspection Centre, the Occupational Health Institution and the State Technical Research Centre (VTT).

The CE mark is affixed on the product, its packaging or its data plate. If this is not possible, the mark may be placed on the accompanying documents or instructions for use. What is important is that the mark should be clearly visible, legible and indelible. Combining other marks with the CE marks is prohibited, but other marks may be allowed provided they do not diminish the visibility or legibility of the CE mark. This applies for example to test laboratory marks, and the Finnish FI mark for electronic products, computers and gas devices.

The principles for the CE mark in Finland are set out in Act 1376/94. The Finnish Standardisation Association has published a guide to the CE mark.

Further information

General guidelines on the CE mark: Council Decision [93/465/EEC](#)

Finnish national legislation can be consulted at: www.finlex.fi.

- Act on affixing the CE mark to certain products (1376/94)

Finnish Standardisation Association [SFS ry](#)