

**Market surveillance:
an example of cooperation with Customs Authorities**

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The global market is a reality
and the European import of machinery
grows from year to year
thanks to the always more increasing development
of the mechanical industry in third countries

The “CE” mark requirements are
the common factors
which assure in the machinery sector
the best possible safety level in workplaces
and in general are fulfilled
by the European manufacturers

The market surveillance
of the imported machines
depends on the skill
of the Customs Authorities' inspectors
which, in general, have difficulties
to verify complex machinery
especially those exported disassembled

For this reason the Italian plastics and rubber machinery manufacturers' Association has signed in 2005 an agreement with the Italian Customs Authorities to verify imported machines in Annex IV of the Machinery Directive

The several inspections made every year
by the experts of the Association
have pointed out that
95% of the inspected machines
do not fulfill the requirements of CE marking

It has to be pointed out that
all inspected machines
have a certificate of adequacy
released from the local branch offices
of well-known European notified bodies

From the Italian experience come three conclusions:

- 1) in third countries the European directives and the safety standards are not known or misunderstood;
- 2) the local branch offices of European notified bodies contribute clearly to the misuse;
- 3) as a same inspection activity of the Customs Authorities is not applied by other European countries, the destinations harbours of the delivered machines have been diverted from Italy.



£ Austria - FMMI Fachverband Maschinen- und Metallwaren Industrie



£ France – SYMACAP



£ Germany - VDMA, FV Kunststoff- und Gummimaschinen



£ Italy - ASSOCOMAPLAST



£ Luxembourg - FEDIL - Fédération des Industriels Luxembourgeois



£ Spain - IMAPC Asoc. Espanola d. Constructores de Maquinaria para Plasticos y Caucho



£ Switzerland - SWISSMEM



£ Turkey - PAGDER



£ United Kingdom - BPF - The British Plastics Federation