

Free Guide

PED: Pressure Equipment Directive



Skills management software
for frontline workers

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What is the Pressure Equipment Directive?

The PED is a mandatory safety directive for manufacturers of pressure equipment in the European Economic Area ^[1]. A PED certification shows that manufacturers comply with requirements set by the directive, which encompass pressure equipment's design, manufacture, and testing.

Pressure equipment that falls under the PED includes parts and components that are subject to a pressure equal to or greater than 0.5 bar, such as:

- Vessels
- Piping
- Boilers
- Heaters
- Valves
- Switches
- Discs
- Rods
- Safety accessories
- Pressure accessories

Who needs a PED certification?

Those involved in pressure equipment's design, production, assembly, installation, sale, and use – and potentially those involved with import, supply, and authorized representation – must have a PED certification.

Additionally, a PED certification is required for pressure equipment organizations that are seeking ISO 9001 certification.

How to earn a PED certification

A PED certification is earned on a product-by-product basis. When an organization creates or designs pressure equipment, the product must pass rigorous tests that prove that it adheres to the directive.

PED compliance encompasses:

- Design and manufacturing
- Materials
- Welding and fabrication
- Non-destructive testing
- Pressure testing and quality control

Often, organizations implement a quality management system (QMS) that integrates the testing and manufacturing standards required by the PED.

Should pressure equipment be manufactured according to the directive, it will earn a CE mark, which signifies that a product conforms with certain EU directives.

To earn a CE mark, pressure equipment organizations usually work with an EU-approved “notified body”, which assesses products’ conformity with various EU regulations and standards. A full list of approved notified bodies is available on the New Approach Notified and Designated Organizations (NANDO) ^[2] website, which is linked in the “Resources” section below.

Renewal requirements for PED certifications

A CE mark for products that fall under the PED is valid for the product's entire lifecycle. However, certain situations may call for a product to re-earn its CE mark. These include:

- Changes in regulations
- Changes in product design or manufacturing
- Audits that result in findings of non-compliance

In the above cases, products would need to be recertified under the PED.

The benefits of PED certification

Earning a PED certification offers several benefits to organizations. Some key advantages include the following.



Market access

PED certification is the only method of accessing the EEA market. Adherence to the directive is mandatory.



Improved product quality

PED certification improves product quality – as well as trust and credibility with customers and stakeholders, as it focuses on quality, safety, and regulatory compliance for pressure equipment.



Legal compliance

Meeting PED requirements ensures legal compliance within the EEA. This reduces the risk of fines, legal disputes, and other issues that may arise from non-compliance.

Challenges in PED certification

Earning PED certifications for products may pose several challenges to organizations. They include the following.



Complex requirements

PED compliance involves adhering to complex technical specifications and conformity assessment procedures. This means an organization's employees must possess significant expertise and resources in the area.



Resource intensiveness

Earning a CE mark for products that fall under the PED requires substantial investment in testing, documentation, and a QMS.



Regulatory updates

Staying current with PED regulations and standards means you will need a way to track, manage and adapt to stay compliant.

Tips and strategies for preparing for PED certification

Here are a few tips for preparing for a PED certification:

- Familiarize yourself with the PED's standards
- Implement a QMS that aligns with PED regulations
- Work with a notified body to ensure that your products are aligned with the PED

Resources for PED certification

For more information and guidance on PED certification, you can refer to the following resources.

European Commission. The European Commission's website houses [a dedicated page for the PED](#). It should be the first stop for organizations that design or manufacture pressure equipment that may fall under the directive.

NANDO database. The [NANDO database is a centralized repository for all EU-approved notified bodies](#). There, organizations can find a notified body that is specialized in the PED.

ISO 9001 certification guide. AG5 offers a [free certification guide for ISO 9001](#) – a standard organizations often integrate with PED certifications

Manufacturing skills matrices. AG5 offers [free, industry-specific skills matrices dedicated to various manufacturing practices](#). You can use them to identify, track, and manage skills related to PED certifications in your organization.

Skills management for PED certifications

AG5 stores all certifications in the cloud, providing all authorized personnel with access to the right version of approved certifications. This helps you easily keep track of all data and documentation related to PED certifications across your organization.

Using AG5's skills management software, you can monitor the status of any type of certification that is relevant to your workforce, leveraging intuitive dashboards that provide you with a clear understanding of exactly what is needed to keep your employees skilled and safe.

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Frequently asked questions about the PED

What is the scope of the PED?

The PED applies to manufacturers of pressure equipment within the European Economic Area.

Is PED certification mandatory?

Yes, a CE mark for pressure equipment that falls under the PED is mandatory.

How long does it take to obtain PED certification?

This varies, depending on the product created and how much must be adjusted or resolved to adhere to the directive.

What are the cost considerations for PED certification?

Cost considerations for PED certification include assessment fees by notified bodies, expenses for testing, documentation preparation, potential design modifications, and ongoing maintenance of compliance.

What is the validity period of PED certification?

A CE mark for products that fall under the PED is valid for the product's lifecycle.

Can PED be integrated with any management systems?

Yes, the PED is often integrated with quality management systems, such as ISO 9001.

How can you learn more about PED certification?

Visit the [PED page on the European Commission's website](#).

Sources

- Change view: Table
- APA

#	Source title	Description	Publication Retrieved	Source URL
1	Pressure Equipment Directive	European Commission -	May 24, 2024	https://single-market-economy...
2	Notified bodies (NANDO)	European Commission -	May 24, 2024	https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/s..

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