

# Implications for electronic products

The guideline 94/9/EG (ATEX 100a) describes, among other things, the technical requirements for products which are used directly in hazardous or explosive areas or which are connected to other devices installed in such areas.

This European Parliament guideline came into force in March 1996 and is valid for all devices which have been approved since then. For devices which were approved before that time, there has been a transition period, which expires on June 30th, 2003, i.e. in a few months.

All devices which have already been installed can still be used without any restrictions, for they are protected. If, however, a device which does not comply with the ATEX guideline is disassembled and reinstalled in another place, then this is no longer approved for use. Needless to say, all ELSTER and Flow Comp products developed since 1st March 1996 fulfill the requirements of the new standards. There are, however, one or two products which do not and can, therefore, no longer be used.

In our opinion, we can easily live with this because we have always ensured that we have developed modern and efficient follow-up devices.

What's more, in certain station applications an ATEX approval is just not necessary. Whether this is the case or not depends on the local conditions and is stipulated in the regulations of the DVGW as well as the guidelines covering explosion protection.

Products affected	Follow-up products
DS-100 series	DL240
EK-88	EK260
EK-90	EK210
EK-87 and GAS-MAX	<i>gas-net</i> Z0 and Z1
USV-88/X	no longer applicable
GAS-MAX/E	<i>gas-net</i> F1
GAS-MAX ++	<i>gas-net</i> Z0 and Z1

The products named above will still be available for use without an ATEX approval should there be a further transition period after 30th June 2003. We do, however, recommend using the new products in the future.

For the TC-90/T temperature corrector, which is used in low-pressure applications, it is not necessary to have an approval and so, this product will continue to be available.

Should you require any further information on this topic, we would be glad to help you.

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