European Radiocommunications Committee (ERC)
within the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT)

CEPT MARKING AND THE R&TTE DIRECTIVE

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CEPT MARKING AND THE R&TTE DIRECTIVE

1 PURPOSE OF THIS ERC REPORT

The purpose of this ERC Report is to inform the Market Surveillance Authorities and the Enforcement Authorities of the developments with regard to the CEPT marking requirements after the implementation of the R&TTE Directive.

It is decided by the ERC not to continue with the CEPT marking after the end of the transition period mentioned in the R&TTE Directive (April 2001), however the existing equipment, already in use, will remain so for many years to come. Although not all CEPT countries have accepted the CEPT marking for placing equipment on the market and putting into service, in many cases they have accepted the CEPT marking for the free circulation of equipment via implementing ERC/DEC/(95)01 on the free circulation of radio equipment in CEPT member countries and other Decisions enlarging the field of application of ERC/DEC/(95)01.

2 INTRODUCTION

On the 8th of April 2000 EU Directive 1999/5 had to be implemented by the EU Member States and in the course of 2000 and later years also other CEPT countries will implement this Directive.

The Directive considerably changed the way in which manufacturers of radio equipment and telecommunications terminal equipment are able to place their products on the European market.

This new Directive has replaced the previous approval systems of both radio equipment and telecommunications terminal equipment and covers both these categories of equipment.

The most important new element of the R&TTE system is that it places liability for the conformity of the products with the manufacturer. The manufacturer has to indicate for each product that it complies with all relevant Directives (EC Declaration of Conformity) and can no longer obtain a type approval certificate beforehand.

Another new element is that the use of certain standards is no longer mandatory, although when no use is made from so-called Harmonised Standards the involvement of a Notified Body is necessary.

Further guidance with regard to the procedures of the R&TTE Directive can be found in the Guide to the Implementation of Directives Based on New Approach and Global Approach, which is available at: http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/newapproach/legislation.htm. Further guidance can also be obtained from the R&TTE homepage at http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/rtte/.

3 CE MARKING

In order to indicate that R&TTE-apparatus meets all the (essential) requirements that apply to them the manufacturer must affix the appropriate CE marking.

The CE marking consists of:

- The basic CE marking: the initials “CE” in the format known from other Directives;
- The identification number of the notified body if a notified body intervenes during the conformity procedure;
- The equipment class identifier (see explanation below) where such an identifier has been assigned to the radio equipment concerned.

The CE marking must be affixed to the product itself, to the packaging and to the accompanying documents. It must be visible, legible and indelible. The minimum height is 5 mm.

The Directive states that the equipment will be divided in classes and that equipment class identifiers shall be assigned to the equipment.

With respect to that it was decided that Telecommunications terminal equipment (non-radio) would not be subdivided, in other words no equipment class identifier was assigned. Only a list, which mentions certain sub-categories is published by the Commission.

Radio equipment was subdivided in two major categories. A list with a further sub-classification is published by the Commission. Work in further detailing this list is going on.

A first category consists of all radio equipment that can be used without any restriction in the whole Community. No identifier was attributed to this category for the identification of the equipment category (= no supplementary marking).

The second category consists of any other radio equipment, i.e. radio equipment for which there is some sort of restriction in the use. The packaging and the user's manual must contain more information about these restrictions. The following graphic symbol was adopted as the sign for indicating the category:

("alert sign"). The exact graphic layout of the information sign has been laid down in the Commission Decision of 6/4/2000 establishing the initial classification of Radio Equipment and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment and associated Identifiers. This Decision has been published in the OJEC L97 of April 19th 2000.

4 CEPT CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

Another effect of the Directive, since it covers all radio and telecommunications equipment, is that Member States can no longer impose any additional requirements in the conformity assessment area. This means that parallel procedures, such as CEPT conformity assessment procedures or national conformity assessment procedures are no longer possible.

The CEPT conformity assessment Decision ERC/DEC/(97)10 will therefore no longer be used within those countries that have implemented the Directive, neither any additional national procedures.

With regard to marking this means that additional marking, such as CEPT marking (as indicated in ERC/DEC/(97)10 or in other Recommendations or Decisions) although allowed as long as the visibility and legibility of the EC marking is not reduced, will, when the transitional period has ended, have no legal value.

Because of this lack of legal value and because of the fact that ERC/DEC/(97)10 will no longer be used, it is decided no longer to have the CEPT marking affixed to the equipment.

This means that after the end of the transition period, as indicated in the Directive, no new equipment with a CEPT mark will be placed on the market. Equipment with a CEPT mark will remain in use of course for a large number of years.

This transitional provisions are the following:

A: between 8 April 2000 and 7 April 2001 equipment may be placed on the market if:

- it meets the requirements of the R&TTE regime, or
- it meets the requirements of the pre-R&TTE regime on condition that :
    - the approval was granted before 8 April 2000 (both radio and terminal equipment) and
    - it was manufactured and placed on the market before 8 April 2001.

B: as from 8 April 2001 only equipment meeting the R&TTE requirements may be placed on the market. Equipment may not longer be placed on the market following old procedures. This implies that all manuals, packaging, marking, conformity procedures followed must be adapted by manufacturers as from 8 April 2001 at the latest.

5 CEPT MARKING

There are no specific ERC Decisions, Recommendations or Reports on the marking of equipment within the CEPT, but a number of ERC Decisions, Recommendations and Reports contain the provision of a specific mark to be affixed to the equipment. In the older Recommendations and Decisions this is a CEPT mark or ERC mark, in ERC/DEC/(97)10 and related output documents the R mark.

Annex I gives a list of ERC output documents containing the marking requirements that can remain to be found on the market in the coming years.

As mentioned above it was decided not to continue with the CEPT marking regime since it was considered to have no additional value for the Market Surveillance and Enforcement Authorities after implementation of the R&TTE Directive. An additional marking regime could have been maintained on a voluntary basis in the EU Member States and other CEPT countries which have implemented the R&TTE Directive, although this could not be enforced and is also considered to be of little added value for the Enforcement Authorities. These Authorities will be able to monitor and to check the available documentation e.g. user manual in cases of disturbances or complaints. It should be recommended that manufacturers inform users of equipment to carry the user manual when going abroad. Visitors of the EU countries should be informed about restrictions of the use of their radio equipment.

Annex II gives an overview of marking schemes before and after the implementation of the R&TTE Directive in the CEPT member countries.

References:

R&TTE Directive 1999/05/EC.
Guide to the Implementation of Directives Based on New Approach and Global Approach.

ANNEX I

Annex I gives a list of ERC output documents containing the marking requirements that can remain to be found on equipment in use in the coming years:

ERC Decision, Recommendation or Report	Mark
ERC/DEC/(92)02 ERC Decision of 22 October 1992 on the frequency bands to be designated for the coordinated introduction of Road Transport Telematic Systems	CEPT-RTT Y where Y is the symbol of the national type approval body
ERC/DEC/(96)02 ERC Decision of 7 March 1996 on the harmonised frequency band to be designated for CEPT PR 27 radio equipment and on the implementation of the technical standard for this equipment.	CEPT PR 27 Y where Y is the symbol of the national type approval body
ERC/DEC/(97)10 ERC Decision of 30 June 1997 on the mutual recognition of conformity assessment procedures including marking of radio equipment and radio terminal equipment	R and a four-digit number identifying the conformity assessment body, which issued the type approval certificate
ERC/DEC/(98)11 ERC Decision of 23 November 1998 on the harmonised frequency band to be designated for CEPT PR 27 radio equipment and on the implementation of the technical standard for this equipment	Rxxxx PR27 where xxxx is the number of the conformity assessment body which issued the type approval certificate
ERC/REC 01-06: Procedure for mutual recognition of type testing and type approval for radio equipment	CEPT X Y Where X is the symbol of the radio equipment, specified in the relevant CEPT Recommendation and Y is the symbol of the national Administration, which issued the type approval certificate. The symbol could be followed by the national authorisation number.
ERC/REC 11-01: Type approval for satellite earth station equipment, VSAT and SNG	ERC VSAT Y ERC SNG Y Y is the symbol of the country where the equipment has been type approved. This symbol could be followed by the national authorisation number and the year of type approval
ERC/REC 21-16: Type approval for LMSS terminals	CEPT/INMARSAT-C/LM/Y CEPT/INMARSAT-D/LM/Y[1] CEPT/INMARSAT-M/LM/Y CEPT/INMARSAT-phone/LM/Y CEPT/EUTELSAT/ET-LM/Y CEPT/EUTELSAT/AS-LM/Y CEPT/EMS-PRODAT/LM/Y CEPT/EMS-MSSAT/LM/Y Y is the symbol of the country where the equipment has been given certificate of conformity. This symbol could be followed by the national authorisation number and the year when the certificate of conformity was given.

[1] The Inmarsat-D system embraces receive only and two way terminals, but two way terminals are usually referred to as Inmarsat-D+ terminals.

ERC/REC 21-14: Satellite paging terminal equipment in Europe	CEPT/SATPAGE/. . . . . . Where ". . . . ." is Satellite Operator Name / Satellite Operator Type Testing Certificate Number
ERC/REC 70-03: Relating to the use of Short Range Devices	Rxxxx SRD Aa[2] CEPT SRD Aa Y[2]
T/R 20-09: PR 27 radio equipment intended to provide short range voice radiocommunication in the 27 MHz band	CEPT PR 27 × × being the symbol of the country where the equipment received type approval
T/R 41-01: Interim type approval, free circulation and use of airborne terminal equipment of TFTS	CEPT TFTS X X being the symbol of the country where the equipment has been type approved.
ERC Report 12: Application guides and explanatory notes to support the ERC Decision regime of mutual recognition of conformity assessment procedures including marking of radio equipment and radio terminal equipment to European Telecommunication Standards	Rxxxx PMR Rxxxx RRL Rxxxx FMBC Rxxxx WM Rxxxx WAL Rxxxx CT2 Rxxxx OSP Rxxxx MAR/VHF Rxxxx GSM/BSS Rxxxx GSM/REP Rxxxx PMR 446 Rxxxx DSCD Rxxxx AEROVHF Rxxxx TETRA

[2] 'xxxx' is the identification number of the responsible conformity assessment body. The updated list of these identification numbers will be available from the ERO.
'A' is the number of the relevant Annex associated with this recommendation.
'a' is the letter of the leftmost column in the Annexes defining the frequency band alternative. 'a' may be more than one letter in the case of multi-band equipment. All frequency bands in which equipment is intended to operate must be specified.
'Y' is the symbol for the country which issued the type approval.

ANNEX II

Annex II: Overview of marking schemes before and after the implementation of the R&TTE Directive

1. Marking system before the implementation of the R&TTE Directive

In the situation before the R&TTE Directive was implemented (8th of April 2000) in the CEPT member countries there were several marking systems applicable for different equipment:

- CE mark (and in some cases the number of the Notified Body) for (radio)equipment complying with the EMC 89/336EEC and/or TTE Directive 98/13/EC (within EEA States);
- R- marking in the case of radio equipment complying with ERC/REC/(97)10 (note: for those countries which have implemented this Decision);
- National marking for radio equipment complying with the provisions of ERC/REC 01-06 on mutual recognition of type testing and other relevant Recommendations;
- In ERC report 12 and ERC/REC 70-03 a detailed marking and classification system is laid down;
- Based on the Memorandum of Understanding on GMPCS (Geneva, 6- 7 October 1997), one of the provisions is a method of identification (marking) of GMPCS terminals in order to arrange carrying and use in other countries (see also http:/www.itu.int/GMPCS/ gmpcs-mou/meetings /oct97/arrange.htm).

2. Marking system after the implementation of the R&TTE Directive

After implementation of the R&TTE Directive 1999/05/EC and the end of the transition period, the marking situation will be as follows:

- CE mark for equipment complying with the Directive 1999/05/EC. In the case of harmonised use, the equipment will bear the CE mark only. And in case of operating in non-harmonised frequency bands the equipment will be accompanied by the alert-sign (for those countries which have implemented the R&TTE Directive 1999/5/EC);
- The R-marking will only exist for those countries which have implemented the ERC/DEC 97(10);
- The classification system laid down in the ERC Report 12 and ERC/REC 70-03 could be kept on a voluntary basis in order to define the relevant interface. It could be used in the national frequency tables and/or the user manuals;
- National marking could remain for radio equipment complying with national regulations in countries which are not obliged to implement the R&TTE Directive and have not adopted ERC/DEC 97(10).

Marking radio equipment	**Type of radio equipment**	**Before 8th of April 2000**	**After 8th of April 2000**
EU Member States And other CEPT countries that implemented the R&TTED	harmonised use in the Community	Placing on the market and putting into service: • national marking • CEPT marking • R-marking	a)placing on the market and putting into service of new radio equipment > CE conformity marking regime ; thus only CE b)putting and/or keeping into service of existing radio equipment; • CEPT marking • national marking • R-marking c)placing on the marking of existing radio equipment, based on the current conformity regimes, will be limited to 8th of April 2001
EU member States And other CEPT countries that implemented the R&TTED	not harmonised use in the Community	Placing on the market and putting into service: • national marking • CEPT marking • R- marking	a)placing on the market and putting into service of new radio equipment > CE conformity marking, thus CE and the equipment class identifier:/alert sign b)putting and/or keeping into service of existing radio equipment based on the current conformity regime(s) > national marking c)placing on the EU market of existing radio equipment based on the current conformity regime(s) will be limited to 8th of April 2001
non EU Member States	harmonised use in CEPT countries	Placing on the marking and putting into service: • national marking • CEPT marking	a)placing on the market and putting into service of new radio equipment in the non EU countries b)placing on the market and putting into service of existing radio equipment: • national marking • CEPT marking
non EU Member States	not harmonised use in CEPT countries	Placing on the marking and putting into service: • national marking	a)placing on the market and putting into service of new radio equipment in the non EU countries b)placing on the market and putting into service of existing radio equipment: • national marking

Note: Based on the ITU Memorandum of Understanding-GMPCS, Geneva, 6- 7 October 1997) GMPCS one of the provisions is a method of identification (marking) of GMPCS terminals. (see also http:/www.itu.int/GMPCS/ gmpcs-mou/meetings/oct97/arrange.htm.)