

New ATEX Directive 2014/34/EU



The new ATEX Directive 2014/34/EU⁽¹⁾ will apply from April 20, 2016 and at the same time will replace ATEX Directive 94/9/EC.

The new Directive was published on March 29, 2014 in the Official Journal of the European Union and the full text is available on the [EU website: Equipment for potentially explosive atmospheres \(ATEX\)](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/mechanical-engineering/atex/index_en.htm).
http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/mechanical-engineering/atex/index_en.htm

ATEX Directive 94/9/EC will be repealed with effect from April 20, 2016 and manufacturers must declare the conformity of their products according to the new Directive 2014/34/EU. During the European Commission's ATEX workshop, which was held in September 2015, it was recognized that manufacturers can declare the conformity of their products before this date as follows:

- to Directive 94/9/EC, indicating the withdrawn date (up to April 19, 2016)
- to Directive 2014/34/EU indicating the date of application (from April 20, 2016)
- and using the new form of the EU declaration of conformity as described in Annex X of Directive 2014/34/EU

ABB has initiated a process to revise all EU declarations of conformity according to Annex X by declaring compliance with both Directives as follows:

“The motors covered by the declaration described above are in conformity with the relevant Union harmonization legislation:

Directive 94/9/EC (until April 19, 2016) and Directive 2014/34/EU (from April 20, 2016)”



It is important to note that the new Directive does not introduce any changes to the Essential Health and Safety Requirements as defined in Annex II, or any changes to the evaluation procedures, i.e. there are no technical changes. Consequently the manufacturer will be able to use documentation issued and used in accordance with Directive 94/9/EC.

No new certification will be necessary as long as the product is not modified or is not affected by a major modification introduced, for example, by a new version of any harmonized standard.

In addition, Article 41 of Directive 2014/34/EU indicates that products which have been placed on the market before April 19, 2016 with only a reference to Directive 94/9/EC in the declaration of conformity can continue to be distributed and to be valid. There will be no requirement to change the legal reference in the declaration and in the documentation. The important factor is the date when the products were placed on the market.

Only new EU type examination certificates will be issued in accordance with Directive 2014/34/EU. For revised type examination certificates with the reference to the new Directive, the same certificate number can be used after April 20, 2016.

(1 Directive 2014/34/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres.