



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT

Directorate D - Waterborne  
**D.2 - Maritime safety**

Brussels,  
MOVE/D2/JPB/mt/ 2121784

Mr Claudio Abbate  
Chairman of the MarED Group of  
Notified Bodies

E-mail: [Claudio.Abbate@rina.org](mailto:Claudio.Abbate@rina.org)

**Subject: MED certificates for fire hoses (entry MED/3.29)**

Dear Mr Abbate,

We have recently received complaints from economic operators about competing companies advertising MED Wheel Marked non-percolating lay flat fire hoses which either have a diameter larger than 52 mm and/or are rubber or plastic coated on the outside.

We would like to ask you to distribute this letter to all notified bodies as members of the MarED group in order to clarify that since the date for the application of the 11<sup>th</sup> Amendment of Directive 96/98/EC (*Commission Directive (EU) 2015/559 of 9 April 2015*), namely as from 30 April 2016, only uncoated firehoses which have a diameter smaller than 52 mm may have an MED Wheel Mark affixed to them. This has been confirmed by Regulation (EU) 2017/306 indicating design, construction and performance requirements and testing standards for marine equipment.

The reason for this is due to the scope of the existing standard for firehoses (EN 14540), as amended), which currently covers neither coated firehoses nor those with a diameter larger than 52mm. The Commission is in the process of issuing a mandate to CEN in order to review the standard concerned, but as long as that standard has not been modified, the Directive does not allow the MED Wheel Mark to be placed on such products.

Accordingly, we ask all notified bodies to revoke any MED certificates which refer to the firehoses not covered by EN 14540, as amended, and to inform their clients that the Wheel Mark may no longer be affixed to these products with immediate effect.

This does of course not mean that such firehoses may not be placed on EU flagged ships anymore, as they can still be placed on board based on a flag state approval like any other equipment which is outside the scope of Directive 2014/90/EU.

Yours sincerely,

*(E-signed)*  
Christine Berg  
Head of Unit

Commission européenne/Europese Commissie, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, BELGIQUE/BELGIË - Tel. +32 22991111  
Office: DM 28 3/64 - Tel. direct line +32 229-91922

[Christine.Berg@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Christine.Berg@ec.europa.eu)