# **EX EXPLAINED**

A ATEX/UKEX MARKING								
×3	I	M1	/	П	1		GD	
Specific mark for Explosion Protection	Equipment Group (Mining)	Equipment Category (Mining)	Equipment Group (Industrial)		Equipment Category (Industrial)	Defines suitability of use of Group II equipment in gas and/or dust atmospheres		

#### **EQUIPMENT GROUP & EQUIPMENT CATEGORY**

		ATEX	ATEX	IEC/EN 60079-0	Pormissible	
		Equipment Group	Equipment Category	Equipment Protection Level	Hazard Group	Area of Use
R M	Mining	I	M1	Very high protection (Ma)		Energised in Ex atmosphere
			M2	High protection (Mb)	•	De-energised in Ex atmosphere
In Ga M	Industrial Gas, Vapour & Mist Hazards	I	1G	Very high protection (Ga)		Zones 0, 1, 2
			2G	High protection (Gb)	Ш	Zones 1, 2
			3G	Normal protection (Gc)		Zones 2
Â	Industrial Dust Hazards		1D	Very high protection (Da)		Zones 20, 21, 22
			2D	High protection (Db)	Ш	Zones 21, 22
			3D	Normal protection (Dc)		Zones 22
Equipment Group and Category identify the areas in which equipment may be safely used.						

#### **REA CLASSIFICATION**

Area Classification		Zana Critaria		
Gases	Dusts		CLASSIFICATION OF	
Zone 0	Zone 20	present continuously, for long periods (>1000hrs per annum) or frequently	HAZARDOUS AREAS To EN/IEC 60079-10 Hazardous areas are classified into zones on	
Zone 1	Zone 21	likely to occur in normal operation, occasionally (>10hrs, <1000hrs per annum)	the basis of the frequency and duration of the occurrence of an explosive	
Zone 2	Zone 22	unlikely to occur in normal operation, if it does will only be for short periods (<10hrs per annum)	atmosphere. Durations in the table are typical.	

#### **RECTIVES AND SCHEMES**

#### **ATEX EQUIPMENT DIRECTIVE 2014/34/EU**

'CE' marking is used within the European Union to identify products that comply with all relevant EU Directives, with the aim of promoting free trade and regulating safety. Only equipment that is 'CE' marked compliant with the ATEX Equipment Directive may be sold for use in potentially explosive atmospheres within the EU. The Directive scope includes electrical and mechanical equipment for use in mining and industrial applications, both on and offshore and considers risks of ignition from potentially explosive gas, vapour, mist and dust atmospheres. Compliance of i conformity assessment, is generally in two stages: design and production. A common route to product design compliance is for an EU Notified Body to assess that a product has met the requirements of all relevant Harmonised EN standards and, accordingly, issue an EU Type Examination Certificate to the ATEX Equipment Directive. The ATEX Directive requires that latest advancements in technical knowledge and 'state-of-the-art' thinking are implemented without delay, so Harmonised EN standards can change regularly. Manufacturers of equipment for safe use in potentially explosive atmospheres are under a legal responsibility to ensure timely compliance with any such changes affecting their products; in some cases this may result in re-design and re-certification. Once compliance with the relevant Directives is complete and the manufacturer has issued the EU Declaration of Conformity, the 'CE' mark is applied. The product should then be added to a Quality Assurance Notification (QAN), issued by an EU Notified Body, to confirm the production quality systems have met the requirements of ISO/IEC

#### **'UKEX' UK STATUTORY INSTRUMENT**

80079-34. The product can then be placed on the market.

'The Equipment and Protective Systems Intended for Use in Potentially Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2016' (UKSI) 2016:1107, was originally introduced as a means of adopting the 2014 ATEX Directive into UK law. As Brexit approached it was amended in preparation for the UK leaving the EU to create a UK direct substitute to ATEX. It has rapidly became known as 'UKEX'. 'UKEX' is used to permit trade within the Great Britain. Equipment approval mirrors ATEX, sharing the same Harmonised

EN standards, renamed Designated standards. Therefore, a UK-Type Examination Certificate can typically be issued using the ATEX product assessment, permitting the 'UKCA' mark to be applied to a product and a UK Declaration of Conformity to be written. The 'UKCA' mark on the product demonstrates equipment is compliant to all relevant UK Statutory Instruments and may be sold for use in potentially explosive atmospheres within Great Britain.

#### **EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

The UK government, having originally planned to move completely to recognising only 'UKCA' marked products for sale in Great Britain by 2023/2024, is now intending to continue to also recognise EU requirements, including 'CE' marking, for a range of product regulations. This includes ATEX. Therefore Ex product end users based in Great Britain will have the flexibility to purchase and put into service either 'UKCA' or 'CE' marked products in their workplace. End users in Northern Ireland can continue to purchase and use 'CE' marked products for their Ex work activities.

A further change to UK legislation in 2024 has meant that manufacturers can now apply 'UKCA' marking to their product and draw up the UK declaration of conformity based on ATEX legislation and the EU Type Examination Certificate, without the need to have a UKEX UK Type Examination Certificate from a UK approval body.

#### **IECEX CERTIFICATION SCHEME**

The objective of the IECEx Certification Scheme is to facilitate international trade in equipment for use in explosive atmospheres, while maintaining the required level of safety and international confidence in the product assessment process. Equipment certification is achieved by meeting relevant international IEC standards (mirror standards to those used in ATEX) and results in access to over 30 member countries that accept the Scheme (subject to national deviations). IECEx is a "live" scheme with a database listing all current product certificates published online.

#### **ATEX WORKPLACE DIRECTIVE & DSEAR**

The 99/92/EC ATEX Workplace Directive is a legal framework providing protection for property and workers in potentially explosive gas, vapour, mist and dust atmospheres within the EU. It lists a set of obligations and safety measures for employers, requiring the adoption of a coherent risk assessment based strategy for the prevention of explosions. The Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002 (DSEAR) UKSI 2002:2776 is the legal framework under the Health and Safety at work Act 1974 to provide protection for property and workers in Great Britain from potentially explosive gas, vapour, mist and dust atmospheres. It still enforces the above 99/92/EC ATEX Workplace Directive as part of its minimum requirements. In Northern Ireland this regulation is mirrored as NISR 2003:152.

#### www.wolfsafety.com

## Ex EQUIPMENT Marking

#### **B** EX MARKING FOR EXPLOSIVE GAS ATMOSPHERES

Specific Mark for

Equipment Protection



#### EX MARKING FOR EXPLOSIVE GAS ATMOSPHERES to EN60079-0





**GROUP II GAS SUBDIVISION** Equipment sub-grouping segregates gases according to ease of ignitability by sparks or flames in a gas/air mixture.

These apply to flameproof

Ex d and intrinsically safe

Ex ia/ib/ic equipment only.



#### **TEMPERATURE CLASS**

rature class relates to the hot surface ignition temperature of a particular explosive gas, vapour or mist atmosphere. It must not be exceeded by the temperature classification of the equipment intended to be used in that atmosphere. Hot surfaces can ignite explosive atmospheres





### **EX ENVIRONMENT**

#### These diagrams show how hazardous area zones may occur in typical circumstances.

FLAMMABLE MATERIAL IN LIQUID FORM

ZONE 1 ZONE 2





PETROL STATION FORECOURT









