

CO-ORDINATION OF NOTIFIED BODIES PPE Regulation 2016/425

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Question related to [☐ PPE Regulation	⊠ EN: EN 61331-3:2014	☐ Other:
Article:	Annex:	Clause:	
Key words:			
x-ray protective clothing; test method			
 Question: X-ray protective clothing needs to be "state of the art" and certified to Module B. The latest standard EN 61331-3:2014 calls up the Inverse Broad Beam Geometry (IBG) test method in EN 61331-1:2014. However, there has been concern over the suitability of this method, and discussion among experts and the industry over the best method for assessing the performance of these products. Which test method should be used for measuring the Lead Equivalence of materials? What effect does the testing have on the marking? 			
Solution:			
Without a harmonized standard the certification needs to be based on a manufacturer's technical specification meeting the Essential Health and Safety Requirements of the Regulation. The basis is EN 61331-3:2014.			
The results of the discussions and inter-laboratory testing are published in an appendix to this recommendation.			
Testing Inter-laboratory testing has shown the Inverse Broad Beam Geometry (IBG) should be replaced by the modified Broad Beam Geometry (BBG*) as described in the Appendix to this RfU. Marking The recommended method eliminates testing at 50 kV, and replaces it with testing at 60kV. The marking and statement of compliance shall reflect this. The User Information must also specify the test method used.			
NOTE: Laboratories wishing to validate their testing against the inter-laboratory test results can contact the VG5 convenor for the access to the reference samples.			