


Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Directive	1998/0327(COD) Procedure completed
Safety and health at work: work equipment (2nd amend. direct. 89/655/EEC, in the context direct. 89/391/EEC)	
Repealed by 2006/0214(COD)	
Subject 4.15.15 Health and safety at work, occupational medicine	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	PSE SKINNER Peter	27/07/1999
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs2296	2269	17/10/2000
	Social Affairs	2269	06/06/2000
European Commission	Commission DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	Commissioner	

Key events			
27/11/1998	Legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0678	Summary
11/01/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
06/06/2000	Debate in Council	2269	
29/08/2000	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
29/08/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A5-0222/2000	
20/09/2000	Debate in Parliament		
21/09/2000	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T5-0397/2000	Summary
11/10/2000	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(2000)0648	Summary
23/03/2001	Council position published	05766/2/2001	Summary
04/04/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		

25/04/2001	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
25/04/2001	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A5-0156/2001	
13/06/2001	Debate in Parliament		
14/06/2001	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T5-0333/2001	Summary
27/06/2001	Final act signed		
27/06/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
19/07/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1998/0327(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
	Repealed by 2006/0214(COD)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 137-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	EMPL/5/13708

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(1998)0678 OJ C 247 31.08.1999, p. 0023 E	27/11/1998	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0331/1999 OJ C 138 18.05.1999, p. 0030	25/03/1999	ESC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0222/2000 OJ C 146 17.05.2001, p. 0003	29/08/2000	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T5-0397/2000 OJ C 146 17.05.2001, p. 0017-0078	21/09/2000	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(2000)0648 OJ C 062 27.02.2001, p. 0113 E	11/10/2000	EC	Summary
Council position	05766/2/2001 OJ C 142 15.05.2001, p. 0016	23/03/2001	CSL	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(2001)0511	30/03/2001	EC	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A5-0156/2001	25/04/2001	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading	T5-0333/2001 OJ C 053 28.02.2002, p. 0238-0303 E	14/06/2001	EP	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Safety and health at work: work equipment (2nd amend. direct. 89/655/EEC, in the context direct. 89/391/EEC)

PURPOSE: To propose a second time directive concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for the use of work equipment by workers at work, in order to contribute to a substantial reduction in the number of falls from a height. **CONTENT:** The proposal amends an article of this earlier directive and adds certain provisions to Annex II thereof regarding requirements for the choice and use of work equipment permitting access to and presence at working places at a height, with particular emphasis on the use of ladders and the assembling and dismantling of scaffolding.?

Safety and health at work: work equipment (2nd amend. direct. 89/655/EEC, in the context direct. 89/391/EEC)

The committee adopted a report (codecision, first reading) by Peter SKINNER (PES, UK) putting forward a number of rather technical amendments to the Commission proposal amending Directive 89/655/EC on minimum safety and health requirements for the use of work equipment by workers. The committee called for a solution that would cover everyone, including self-employed persons and employers, working with work equipment used for temporary work at height. It also stressed the need for adequate training of workers, including scaffolders, to ensure that they were aware of their own roles and responsibilities for safety. The committee strengthened the wording of several other provisions concerning, inter alia, the use of ladders and the safety of scaffolding and warning signs. ?

Safety and health at work: work equipment (2nd amend. direct. 89/655/EEC, in the context direct. 89/391/EEC)

The Parliament adopted its opinion on the Commission's proposal introducing a number of technical amendments. It called for a solution that would cover everyone, including self-employed people and employers, working with work equipment used for temporary work at height. It also stressed the need for workers to receive adequate training. It also strengthened the wording of several other provisions concerning the use of ladders, the safety of scaffolding and warning signs.?

Safety and health at work: work equipment (2nd amend. direct. 89/655/EEC, in the context direct. 89/391/EEC)

This document concerns an amended proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council, amending for the second time Directive 89/655/EEC concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for the use of work equipment by workers at work (2nd individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16 of Directive 89/391/EC. The changes made by the Commission are of two types: 1) the first group are formal changes following the entry into force of the Amsterdam Treaty; 2) the second group stem from the European Parliament's amendments accepted by the Commission - in part or in full - at the plenary part session. The principal European Parliament amendments accepted by the Commission relate to the following: - risk assessment; - worker training; - standard of safety/risk; - technical clarifications and improvements; - self-employed persons. In conclusion, as it is not possible under the Treaty to go any further than Directive 92/57/EEC, the Commission is preparing a proposal for a Council recommendation on this subject. ?

Safety and health at work: work equipment (2nd amend. direct. 89/655/EEC, in the context direct. 89/391/EEC)

The Council accepted the 16 amendments included, in whole or in part, by the Commission in its amended proposal, if not literally then at least in spirit. The Council, in its common position, has respected the objectives put forward by the Commission and supported by the Parliament, while introducing a number of amendments to the proposal. The common position, is in accordance with the objectives of Article 137(2) of the Treaty in the area covered, since it is designated to introduce minimum requirements to improve the health and safety of workers. It also sets out the requirements relating to quite specific situations at work, namely the use of work equipment allowing access to and use of work stations at a height. It aims to cover all sectors of activity, and includes a clear obligation to select equipment which offers adequate protection against the risks of falls from a height, and also where appropriate, for the specific and appropriate training of workers. Ladders, scaffolding and ropes are the equipment most commonly used to carry out temporary works at a height, and the common position sets out the way in which this equipment may be used by workers under the safest conditions. Lastly, the common position allows Member States a transitional period to take account of practical problems of implementation which may be encountered by small and medium-sized enterprises in particular. The Council feels that overall the text of the common position is in line with the basic objectives of the Commission's amended proposal. It also believes that it has taken account of the essential features of the objectives pursued by the European Parliament in its proposed amendments. ?

Safety and health at work: work equipment (2nd amend. direct. 89/655/EEC, in the context direct. 89/391/EEC)

In general, the Council's common position complies with the spirit of the Commission proposal and largely takes into account the amendments submitted following the first reading in the European Parliament. Some points have been reformulated or strengthened. The most significant difference in relation to the Commission proposal is the introduction of the possibility for the Member States to make use of a transitional period of not more than two years in order to facilitate the practical implementation of the Directive. The Commission supports the common position in its entirety. Moreover, in the Annex, the Commission is invited by the Council to take action regarding the requirements for products for the purpose of improving technical features, in particular scaffolding. The Commission takes note of the Council's invitation and will give it all due consideration. The Commission also states that it intends to prepare a communication concerning all persons employed in preparing, performing and completing temporary work at a height. ?

Safety and health at work: work equipment (2nd amend. direct. 89/655/EEC, in the context direct. 89/391/EEC)

The committee adopted the report by Peter SKINNER (PES, UK) approving the Council's common position without amendment under the codecision procedure (2nd reading). ?

Safety and health at work: work equipment (2nd amend. direct. 89/655/EEC, in the context direct. 89/391/EEC)

The European Parliament voted to approve, without amendment, the report by Mr Peter William SKINNER (PES, UK).?

Safety and health at work: work equipment (2nd amend. direct. 89/655/EEC, in the context direct. 89/391/EEC)

PURPOSE : to introduce provisions for the use of work equipment by workers in order to contribute to a substantial reduction in the number of falls from a height. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Directive 2001/45/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 amending Council Directive 89/655/EEC concerning the minimum health and safety requirements for the use of work equipment by workers (second individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16(1) of Directive 89/391/EEC). CONTENT : This directive imposes obligations on employers who have temporary work carried out at a height to select appropriate equipment for the protection of workers. Means of access must be chosen according to the frequency of passage, the height to be negotiated and the duration of use. Ladders may be used as work stations only under circumstances in which safer equipment is not justified because of the low level of risk and either the short duration of use or existing features on site that are not alterable. Provisions must be made for the installation of safeguards to prevent falls. There are specific provisions on the use of ladders, scaffolding, rope access and positioning techniques. Member States must introduce legislation to comply with the Directive no later than 19/07/2004. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 19/07/2001 ?