

MID: Measuring Instruments Directive (Directive 2014/32/EU), explained

The Measuring Instruments Directive sets essential requirements, notified-body assessment and CE plus metrology marking for ten categories of measuring instruments, with duties for manufacturers, authorised representatives, importers and distributors. It has applied since 20 April 2016; Directive (EU) 2026/706 adds EV charging and compressed gas dispensing systems from 10 October 2028.

Reviewed 24 September 2026 by Conphora compliance team · Next review 12 March 2027 · Not legal advice

Key facts

Reference	Directive 2014/32/EU	Act type	Directive
In force	18 April 2014	Applies from	20 April 2016
Amended by	Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2015/13, Directive (EU) 2026/706	Enforced by	National market surveillance authorities enforce the national laws transposing the directive; Article 41 still cites Article 15(3) and Articles 16 to 29 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008, read as Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 since 16 July 2021, whose Annex I lists the directive as point 51.
CELEX	32014L0032		

Key dates

30 October 2006	Directive 2004/22/EC on measuring instruments applies and repeals eleven old-approach instrument directives, from gas meters and taximeters to hot-water meters	Art. 22 and Art. 24
26 February 2014	Directive 2014/32/EU adopted by the European Parliament and the Council as a recast of Directive 2004/22/EC aligned with the New Legislative Framework	title and Art. 52
18 April 2014	Entry into force, the twentieth day after publication in OJ L 96 of 29 March 2014; the delegated power to amend the instrument-specific annexes runs from this date	Art. 48(2) and Art. 53
27 January 2015	Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2015/13 in force: the water-meter flowrate range in Annex III becomes Q3/Q1 at least 40; transposition by 19 April 2016, applied from 20 April 2016	Art. 1, Art. 2 and Art. 3
19 April 2016	Deadline for Member States to adopt and publish the laws transposing the definitions, the economic operator duties, the presumption of conformity, the declaration, the marking rules, the notified body and market surveillance chapters, penalties and Annex II	Art. 51(1)
20 April 2016	National measures apply; Articles 1 to 3, the first four definitions, Articles 5 to 7, 15 to 18 and 20, Article 22(2) and (4) and Annexes I and III to XII apply directly; Directive 2004/22/EC repealed; instruments conforming to it and placed on the market before this date may still be made available and put into use, and its certificates remain valid	Art. 50(1), Art. 51(1), Art. 52 and Art. 53
30 October 2016	End of the ten-year transition inherited from Article 23 of Directive 2004/22/EC for instruments satisfying the rules applicable before 30 October 2006	Art. 50(2)
16 July 2021	Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 applies: it repeals Articles 15 to 29 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008, lists the directive as point 51 of its Annex I and, under Article 4, requires an economic operator established in the Union for every measuring instrument placed on the market	Art. 4(5), Art. 39, Art. 44 and Annex I point 51
1 July 2022	Danish executive order nr. 774 of 1 June 2022 on making measuring instruments available on the market in force, replacing order nr. 544 of 28 May 2018; it applies the directive to water, gas, electricity and heat meters, liquid measuring systems, automatic weighing instruments, material measures and dimensional instruments and not to taximeters and exhaust gas analysers	§ 1 and § 60

1 January 2026	Sikkerhedsstyrelsen becomes the department Markedsovervågning of Erhvervsstyrelsen and continues the same tasks, including the control of measuring instruments and the designation of notified bodies	§ 9
9 April 2026	Directive (EU) 2026/706 in force: measuring systems for electric vehicle supply equipment (MI-011, Annex Va) and for compressed gas dispensers (MI-012, Annex VIIa) added, Annex I and the gas, electricity and thermal energy meter annexes updated; conformity assessment bodies may be notified under the amended directive before 10 October 2028 and may then issue certificates for the amended gas, electricity and thermal energy meter annexes	Art. 1, Art. 4 and Art. 5
10 April 2028	Deadline for Member States to adopt and publish the measures transposing Directive (EU) 2026/706	Art. 3(1)
10 October 2028	National measures transposing Directive (EU) 2026/706 apply; instruments conforming to the directive as it stood on 8 April 2026 and placed on the market before this date may still be made available and put into use	Art. 2(1) and Art. 3(1)
10 April 2030	End of the transition for EV supply equipment and compressed gas dispenser measuring systems conforming to national law and placed on the market before this date	Art. 2(2)
10 April 2038	Latest date to which certificates issued before 10 October 2028 for instruments brought into the directive by Directive (EU) 2026/706 remain valid	Art. 2(3)

Obligations by role

Manufacturer (including brand owners and self-users)

- Design and manufacture the instrument to the essential requirements of Annex I and the relevant instrument-specific annex: errors within the maximum permissible errors under rated operating conditions, specified performance under disturbances, reproducibility, repeatability, discrimination, durability, reliability, suitability, protection against corruption of hardware, software and data, and the inscriptions, information and indication of the result. Art. 6, Art. 8(1) and Annex I, points 1 to 12
- Draw up the Article 18 technical documentation that makes the design, manufacture and operation intelligible and shows the metrological characteristics, reproducibility and integrity, including drawings, manufacturing procedures, software descriptions, the harmonised standards or normative documents applied, test results under rated operating conditions and disturbances, durability results for gas, water, thermal energy and liquid meters, and where seals and markings are applied. Art. 8(2) and Art. 18
- Carry out, or have carried out, one of the conformity assessment procedures listed in the instrument-specific annex, using a notified body for EU-type examination, quality assurance, product verification or unit verification as the chosen module requires; in Denmark the body must be designated by Sikkerhedsstyrelsen or by another Member State. Art. 8(2), Art. 17 and Annex II; § 33 and § 34
- Draw up the EU declaration of conformity per the Annex XIII model, translated into the languages the Member State requires, kept continuously updated and, where several Union acts apply, as a single declaration covering them all, and affix the CE marking and the supplementary metrology marking before placing the instrument on the market. Art. 8(2), Art. 19, Art. 20 and Art. 22(3)
- Draw up the EU declaration of conformity per the Annex XIII model, translated into the languages the Member State requires, kept continuously updated and, where several Union acts apply, as a single declaration covering them all. Art. 8(2) and Art. 19
- Affix the CE marking and the supplementary metrology marking, the capital letter M and the last two digits of the year of affixing in a rectangle of the CE marking's height, visibly, legibly and indelibly to the instrument or its data plate, the metrology marking immediately after the CE marking and followed by the notified body's identification number where the body is involved in production control.
Art. 21 and Art. 22
- Keep the technical documentation and the EU declaration of conformity for 10 years after the instrument was placed on the market, and keep series production in conformity, taking account of changes in design, characteristics and the standards or normative documents referenced; where the instrument's performance warrants it, sample-test marketed instruments, investigate and keep a register of complaints, non-conforming instruments and recalls, and keep distributors informed.
Art. 8(3) and Art. 8(4)
- Keep the technical documentation and the EU declaration of conformity for 10 years after the instrument was placed on the market. Art. 8(3)
- Keep series production in conformity, taking account of changes in design or characteristics and in the harmonised standards or normative documents referenced. Art. 8(4)
- Where the instrument's performance warrants it, sample-test marketed instruments, investigate complaints, keep a register of complaints, non-conforming instruments and recalls, and keep distributors informed of that monitoring. Art. 8(4)
- Mark the instrument with a type, batch or serial number or other identifier and with your name, registered trade name or trade mark and a single postal contact address, or where its size or nature does not allow it, in an accompanying document and on the packaging, and supply a copy of the EU declaration of conformity and the Annex I point 9.3 instructions and information in a language the Member State determines. Art. 8(5), Art. 8(6), Art. 8(7) and Annex I, point 9

- Mark the instrument with a type, batch or serial number or other identifier and with your name, registered trade name or trade mark and a single postal contact address or, where it does not allow it, put them in an accompanying document and on the packaging. Art. 8(5) and Art. 8(6)
- Supply the instrument with a copy of the EU declaration of conformity and the Annex I point 9.3 instructions and information in a language the Member State determines. Art. 8(7) and Annex I, point 9
- If you consider or have reason to believe that an instrument you placed on the market does not conform, immediately bring it into conformity, withdraw or recall it, and where it presents a risk inform the competent national authorities of the Member States where you made it available; on reasoned request provide all conformity information and documentation in a language the authority understands, cooperate on risk-elimination measures, and identify your suppliers and customers for 10 years.
Art. 8(8), Art. 8(9) and Art. 13
- If an instrument you placed on the market does not conform, immediately bring it into conformity, withdraw or recall it, and where it presents a risk inform the competent national authorities of the Member States where you made it available. Art. 8(8)
- On a reasoned request, provide the authority with the information and documentation demonstrating conformity in a language it understands, and cooperate on measures to eliminate the risks posed by the instruments. Art. 8(9)
- Be able to identify, for 10 years after each supply, the economic operators that supplied you and the economic operators you supplied. Art. 13

Authorised representative

- Act under a written mandate that at least lets you keep the EU declaration of conformity and the technical documentation at the disposal of the national market surveillance authorities for 10 years after the instrument was placed on the market, provide conformity information and documentation on reasoned request, and cooperate with the authorities on risk-elimination measures for the instruments in your mandate. Art. 9(2)
- Act only under a written mandate from the manufacturer that sets out the tasks you perform on its behalf. Art. 9(1) and Art. 9(2)
- Keep the EU declaration of conformity and the technical documentation at the disposal of the national market surveillance authorities for 10 years after the instrument was placed on the market. Art. 9(2)(a)
- On a reasoned request, provide the authority with the information and documentation demonstrating conformity, and cooperate with it on measures to eliminate the risks of the instruments covered by your mandate. Art. 9(2)(b) and Art. 9(2)(c)
- Do not take over the manufacturer's duty to design and manufacture to the essential requirements or to draw up the technical documentation; those cannot form part of the mandate. Art. 9(1)
- Where the notified body instructs it, affix its identification number after the CE and metrology markings on the manufacturer's behalf, and be able to identify the economic operators that supplied you and that you supplied for 10 years. Art. 13 and Art. 22(5)
- Where the notified body instructs it, affix its identification number after the CE and metrology markings on the manufacturer's behalf. Art. 22(5)
- Be able to identify, for 10 years after each supply, the economic operators that supplied you and the economic operators you supplied. Art. 13
- Where the manufacturer is outside the Union and no importer exists, you may be the economic operator established in the Union that Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 requires for every measuring instrument placed on the market, verifying the declaration and documentation, informing the authorities of risks and cooperating on corrective action. Art. 4(1) to Art. 4(5)

Importer

- Place only compliant instruments on the market, and before placing an instrument on the market or putting it into use check that the manufacturer carried out the appropriate conformity assessment procedure, drew up the technical documentation, affixed the CE marking and the supplementary metrology marking, supplied a copy of the EU declaration of conformity and the required documents and applied the identification and address markings; hold back non-conforming instruments and inform the manufacturer and the market surveillance authorities where they present a risk. Art. 10(1) and Art. 10(2)
- Indicate your name, registered trade name or trade mark and a postal contact address on the instrument or, where not possible, in an accompanying document and on the packaging, in a language end users and the authorities understand. Art. 10(3)
- Ensure the instrument is accompanied by the Annex I point 9.3 instructions and information in a language the Member State determines, and keep storage and transport conditions from jeopardising compliance with the essential requirements. Art. 10(4) and Art. 10(5)
- Ensure the instrument is accompanied by the Annex I point 9.3 instructions and information in a language the Member State determines. Art. 10(4)
- While an instrument is under your responsibility, keep storage and transport conditions from jeopardising its compliance with the essential requirements. Art. 10(5)
- Where the instrument's performance warrants it, sample-test marketed instruments, investigate and keep a register of complaints, non-conforming instruments and recalls, and keep distributors informed. Art. 10(6)
- If an instrument you placed on the market does not conform, immediately take corrective measures, withdraw or recall it, and where it presents a risk inform the competent national authorities of the Member States concerned with details of the non-compliance and the corrective measures. Art. 10(7)
- Keep a copy of the EU declaration of conformity at the disposal of the market surveillance authorities for 10 years and ensure the technical documentation can be made available on request; provide conformity information on reasoned request in a language the authority understands, cooperate on risk-elimination measures, and identify suppliers and customers for 10 years. Art. 10(8), Art. 10(9) and Art. 13
- Keep a copy of the EU declaration of conformity at the disposal of the market surveillance authorities for 10 years after placing on the market, and ensure the technical documentation can be made available on request. Art. 10(8)
- On a reasoned request, provide the authority with the information and documentation demonstrating conformity in a language it understands, and cooperate on measures to eliminate the risks posed by the instruments. Art. 10(9)
- Be able to identify, for 10 years after each supply, the economic operators that supplied you and the economic operators you supplied. Art. 13
- If you place an instrument on the market under your own name or trade mark, or modify an instrument already placed on the market in a way that may affect compliance, you carry the manufacturer's obligations under Article 8. Art. 12

Distributor (wholesaler, retailer or installer supplying instruments)

- Act with due care and, before making an instrument available or putting it into use, verify that it bears the CE marking and the supplementary metrology marking, is accompanied by the EU declaration of conformity, the required documents and the instructions and information in a language the end users of the Member State understand, and that the manufacturer and importer applied their identification and address markings; hold back non-conforming instruments and inform the manufacturer or importer and the market surveillance authorities where they present a risk. Art. 11(1) and Art. 11(2)
- Keep storage and transport conditions from jeopardising compliance with the essential requirements while the instrument is under your responsibility. Art. 11(3)
- If an instrument you made available or put into use does not conform, make sure corrective measures are taken to bring it into conformity, withdraw or recall it, and where it presents a risk immediately inform the competent national authorities of the Member States concerned. Art. 11(4)
- On reasoned request, provide the information and documentation demonstrating conformity, cooperate on risk-elimination measures, and identify the economic operators that supplied you and that you supplied for 10 years. Art. 11(5) and Art. 13
- On a reasoned request, provide the authority with the information and documentation demonstrating conformity in a language it understands, and cooperate on measures to eliminate the risks posed by the instruments. Art. 11(5)
- Be able to identify, for 10 years after each supply, the economic operators that supplied you and the economic operators you supplied. Art. 13
- If you sell under your own name or trade mark or modify an instrument in a way that may affect compliance, you take on the manufacturer's obligations; in Denmark, an instrument used for measurements on which payment is based must also meet the rules in the hands of the instrument owner, who can be ordered to bring it into conformity or forbidden to use it.
Art. 12; § 4, nr. 2, § 5, stk. 4, and § 16 a
- If you make an instrument available under your own name or trade mark, or modify one in a way that may affect compliance, you take on the manufacturer's obligations under Article 8. Art. 12

Penalties

Member States lay down the rules on penalties for infringements by economic operators of their national transposing laws and enforce them; the penalties must be effective, proportionate and dissuasive and may include criminal penalties for serious infringements. Market surveillance authorities evaluate instruments that present a risk to the public interests the directive protects, require corrective action, withdrawal or recall within a period commensurate with the risk, inform the notified body, and if the operator fails to act prohibit or restrict the making available, withdraw or recall the instrument and notify the Commission and the other Member States; compliant instruments that still present a risk can be treated the same way. Formal non-compliance, such as a missing or wrongly affixed CE marking or supplementary metrology marking, a missing notified body number, a missing or incorrect EU declaration of conformity, missing or incomplete technical documentation or missing manufacturer or importer identification, must be ended and otherwise leads to restriction, prohibition, withdrawal or recall. Since 16 July 2021 the surveillance powers come from Regulation (EU) 2019/1020, whose authorities can demand documents and supply-chain information, inspect and buy samples, require corrective action, prohibit the making available and have instruments withdrawn, recalled or destroyed. In Denmark, executive order nr. 774 of 1 June 2022 lets Sikkerhedsstyrelsen order formal non-compliance corrected within a deadline and then order withdrawal, recall or a sales ban under the product act, order an improperly affixed metrology marking removed, and punishes with a fine the placing on the market of non-conforming instruments, missing documentation, markings, instructions, notifications, mandates and notified-body use, with imprisonment of up to 2 years in aggravating circumstances and liability for companies; the product act adds orders to warn users, stop marketing, remedy, stop sales, withdraw, recall or destroy, prohibitions, orders to the owner of an instrument used for payment-based measurement, and fines, rising to imprisonment of up to 2 years in aggravating circumstances, for breaches of the act, of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 Article 4 and of the authority's decisions. Since January 2026 Sikkerhedsstyrelsen is the department Markedsovervågning of Erhvervsstyrelsen.

Art. 41, Art. 42, Art. 44, Art. 45 and Art. 49; Art. 14, Art. 16, Art. 39 and Annex I point 51; § 57, § 58 and § 59; § 2, stk. 1, nr. 14, § 9, §

Checklist

- 1. Confirm the instrument is defined in one of the instrument-specific annexes, MI-001 to MI-010 today and MI-011 and MI-012 from 10 October 2028, and check whether each Member State of sale prescribes its use for a legally controlled measuring task; in Denmark see executive order nr. 774/2022 § 1 (Articles 2 and 3).
- 2. Decide your role for each product, remembering that selling under your own brand, modifying an instrument or putting it into use for your own purposes makes you the manufacturer (Article 4, point (8), and Article 12).
- 3. Identify the harmonised standards and the OIML normative documents listed in the Official Journal that cover the instrument, or document the technical solutions you use instead (Article 14 and Article 18(3) (f) and (g)).
- 4. Specify the rated operating conditions, the climatic temperature limits from Annex I Table 1, the mechanical class M1 to M3 and the electromagnetic class E1 to E3, and test against the maximum permissible errors and disturbances of the instrument-specific annex (Annex I, point 1).
- 5. Choose a conformity assessment module allowed by the instrument-specific annex, for most meters B + F, B + D or H1, and engage a notified body listed by the Commission — or, for capacity serving measures under module A2, an accredited in-house body; in Denmark the notified body must be one designated by Sikkerhedsstyrelsen or by an authority in another EU country (Article 17, Article 30, Annex II and executive order nr. 774/2022 § 33).
- 6. Compile the Article 18 technical documentation with drawings, software descriptions, manufacturing procedures, test and durability results and the location of seals and markings, and keep it with the declaration for 10 years (Articles 8(3) and 18).
- 7. Draw up the Annex XIII EU declaration of conformity per model, as a single declaration where the EMC Directive or other Union acts also apply, and translate it as the Member States require (Article 19).
- 8. Affix the CE marking, the supplementary metrology marking M with the two-digit year in a rectangle and the notified body number to the instrument or its data plate before placing it on the market (Articles 21 and 22).
- 9. Mark the identifier, manufacturer and importer names and addresses, accuracy and other Annex I point 9 inscriptions, and supply the declaration copy and the instructions in the required language (Articles 8(5) to 8(7) and 10(3) and 10(4)).
- 10. Set up the corrective-action and notification procedure, 10-year supplier and customer traceability and, where the instrument's performance warrants it, sample testing and a complaints register (Articles 8(4), 8(8), 10(6), 10(7), 11(4) and 13).

Sources

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6. Directive 2004/22/EC on measuring instruments, consolidated text of 1 December 2009 (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:02004L0022-20091201>
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8. Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 on market surveillance and compliance of products (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32019R1020>
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12. Bekendtgørelse af lov om produkter og markedsovervågning, LBK nr. 22 af 8. januar 2026 (Retsinformation) — <https://www.retsinformation.dk/eli/lta/2026/22>
13. Legal måling og vejning (legal metrologi) (Sikkerhedsstyrelsen) — <https://www.sik.dk/erhverv/produkter/maaling-og-vaegt-metrologi/vejledninger/legal-maaling-og-vejning-legal-metrologi>
14. Sikkerhedsstyrelsen, en del af Erhvervsstyrelsen from January 2026 (Erhvervsstyrelsen) — <https://erhvervsstyrelsen.dk/sikkerhedsstyrelsen-en-del-af-erhvervsstyrelsen>

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