



Fan Manufacturers Association

Position statement

on FANS intended for use in
Potentially Explosive Atmospheres;
Conformity with the ATEX Directive 94/9/EC

With the introduction of the ATEX directive into UK law on 1st July 2003 there are technical and legislative aspects that have to be addressed by fan manufacturers AND by users of fans in potentially explosive atmospheres.

Members of the Fan Manufacturers Association (FMA) have over the last few years held a number of industry meetings during which they have addressed the technical requirements laid out in the ATEX directive.

Consequently members of the FMA are in a position to provide solutions to applications that require fans to be used in potentially explosive atmospheres and they are in a position to supply fans that are compliant with the ATEX directive.

In order to supply fully compliant fans, the client/end-user must provide the fan manufacturer (or his agent) with essential details on the environment in which the fan will be required to operate. The Directive sets out the main duties on end-users of fans as:

- To prevent the formation of explosive atmospheres
- Assessment of explosion risks
- Classification of the workplace into Zones
- Select ATEX products according to Zone
- Prepare an explosion protection document (EPD)
- Identify hazardous areas using warning signs

The FMA has listed the information your fan supplier will require from you on the second page of this statement, but if you are uncertain on any aspect the FMA would recommend that you talk to your fan supplier.



Information that the end-user/client MUST provide to their fan manufacturer so that they can supply you with a fan that is compliant with the ATEX Directive 94/9/EC

In addition to the fan duty requirements, to assist us to produce a quotation for a fan for use in a hazardous atmosphere and to comply with ATEX Directive 94/9/EC, please complete the table below.

Hazardous Area Details

		Inside Fan Casing	Outside Fan Casing
Zone Classification	Zone 0 or 20		
	Zone 1 or 21		
	Zone 2 or 22		
Category *	Category 1D or 1G		**
	Category 2D or 2G		**
	Category 3D or 3G		**
Temperature Class (gas only) eg. T3, T4 ... T6			
Max allowable surface Temp. of equipment (°C) ***			
Ignition Temp. of dust (°C) if applicable			

Operation Details

Gas or Dust Group e.g. Gas Group IIB (mixture of air and 5% Ethylene)	Group
How is the fan installed e.g. ducted inlet/open outlet	
Description of fan operation	
Any extreme environmental conditions e.g. high ambient temperatures, corrosive or dirty environment which may cause build up etc.	

* If unknown, we will use the relation between Zone and Category from the draft EN CEN/TC305/WG2/SG1 N107-2; 2003 Annex D table D2 (reproduced below)

In zone	Applicable category	If designed for
0	1G	gas/air mixture or vapour/air mixture or mist/air mixture
1	1G or 2G	gas/air mixture or vapour/air mixture or mist/air mixture
2	1G or 2G or 3G	gas/air mixture or vapour/air mixture or mist/air mixture
20	1D	dust/air mixture
21	1D or 2D	dust/air mixture
22	1D or 2D or 3D	dust/air mixture

** Never more than one category step lower than for “inside fan casing”. For a ducted fan located in an un-ventilated room, the same category shall be applied for the outside and the inside of the fan casing.

*** If unknown, we will use the relation of Temp. Class and Max Surface Temp. in EN13463-1; Table 1, Section 6

Information requested by FMA member