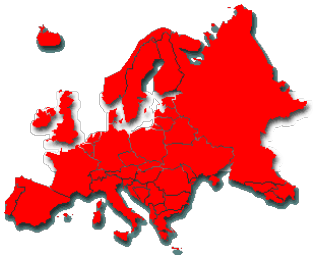
afecor

European Control Manufacturers Association



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AFECOR STATEMENT

Applicability of the ATEX Directive 2014/34/EU to afecor controls

The ATEX directive describes environments where an explosive atmosphere is expected. In those atmospheres specific safety measures must be taken to avoid explosions. For instance, any light switches or any spark emitting equipment are not permitted. Afecor controls and systems are designed for use in heating systems on appliances burning gaseous fuels with an open flame. These systems by definitions are not allowed in ATEX environments. See ATEX 2014/34/EU Guidelines §238 GAR below.

Afecor controls are designed to separate the fuel gas from the atmosphere. **Even with the use of renewable fuels e.g. hydrogen (H2), no additional ATEX zones need to be considered because a minimum air exchange rate in the close environment of the appliance is required by national installation rules.** Further information can be found in CEN TR 17924 "S*afety and control devices for burners and appliances burning gaseous and/or liquid fuels. Guidance on hydrogen specific aspects*".

§ 238 Gas Appliances Regulation (EU) 2016/426 (GAR)

The Regulation (EU) 2016/426 on appliances burning gaseous fuels, or Gas Appliances Regulation (GAR), does not apply to equipment designed for industrial processes. Most equipment within scope of GAR is capable of igniting a surrounding explosive atmosphere and cannot comply with ATEX.

It should be noted the exclusion contained in Article 1(2)(C)) of Directive 2014/34/EU regarding "accidental leak of fuel gas".

The question has been raised as to whether this implicitly conveys the meaning that such equipment, where the leakage is not fuel gas, are included in the scope of the ATEX Directive. It was agreed that, as a general rule, such types of equipment are excluded from the Directive as they are not intended for use in a potentially explosive atmosphere.