



# THE CPD AND THE FIRE PROTECTION INDUSTRY

## What is 'the CPD'?

'The CPD' stands for 'The Construction Products Directive'. This is a 'New Approach' Directive that has been developed by the European Commission and passed into law by the European Parliament. The objective is to eliminate technical barriers within the European Economic Area.

## What does the CPD apply to?

All products that are fixed into a building, including products such as bricks, false ceilings, ventilation units, piping and, most importantly for us, fire detection and alarm systems.

## When will the CPD apply to fire detection equipment?

The CPD is mandatory for point smoke detectors, point heat detectors and alarm sounders since the 1st of June 2005.

## What about manual call points, control & indicating equipment and other fire detection components?

There are no published dates for the implementation of the CPD for call points and control panels.

## How will I know if a product complies with the requirements of the CPD?

Compliant products will usually be marked with the CE mark the style of which is defined by a European Directive 93/68/EEC. Underneath this mark will be a four digit number that represents the Notified Body that assessed the product. The LPCB is a notified body and its four digit designation is 0832. An example of the mark is:



The European certificate of conformity number will also be marked on the product. An example of this is:

0832- CPD-XXXX

where 'XXXX' is the certificate number.

## Which countries does the CPD apply to?

Every country that is within the European Economic Area (EEA) ie, all the members of the European Union and three of the four states of the European Free Trade Association. In Switzerland, building products do not have to observe the regulations of the CPD. Swiss law has, however, adopted the CPD so that building products may be exported to the EU and vice versa.

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### Overseas offices:

America | China | Germany | Ireland | Spain

36 Brookside Road, Havant,  
Hampshire, PO9 1JR, UK.

Tel: +44 (0)23 9249 2412  
Fax: +44 (0)23 9249 2754

Email: sales@apollo-fire.co.uk  
Web: www.apollo-fire.co.uk

### **Is the CPD mandatory in the EEA?**

Yes. However there are differences in the way that the CPD legislation has been implemented. In the United Kingdom, Portugal and Finland the requirement to apply the CE mark has not been included in national legislation. In the United Kingdom this means that products covered by the CPD do not have to carry the CE mark. Apollo products will, however, carry the CE mark once they have been certified.

### **If there is no requirement for the CE mark to be on the products, how will I know that they have been certified under the CPD?**

In the UK, Building Regulations cover this under Approved Document B. In other countries the local building regulations authority will provide information on how CPD compliance is demonstrated. If products are not CE marked the manufacturer may

- submit a third party test report
- provide manufacturer's data or
- offer historical evidence

It is, however, best to have the product carry the CE mark as such a product *cannot be challenged by regulators or building inspectors*.

### **Which Apollo products carry a CE mark for the CPD?**

- Series 65™
- Orbis®
- XPlover®
- Discovery®
- XP95®
- AlarmSense®
- XPander®
- XP95 IS
- Orbis IS
- Sounders