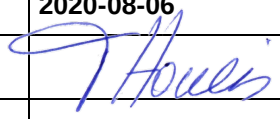
ExNB	Co-ordination of Notified Bodies Directive 2014/34/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council (ATEX) *Equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmosphere*	Clarification Sheet ExNB/CS/020

Status:	**Step*5.2.1**	**Initial proposal by**	Baseefa	**Date:**	**2008-11-13**
	Step 5.2.3		Baseefa		**2008-11-13**
	Step 5.2.3				**2008-11-28**

Step refers to ExNB Rules

Instructions and Year of Manufacture

Authorised by Chairman:	**Dr. Thedens**	**Date:**	**2009-02-28**
Confirmed by Chairman: (Step*5.2.5)	**Mr. Houeix**	**Date:**	**2020-08-06**
		Signature:	
Former number of document:	**ExNB/08/338/CS**		

Question: The ATEX Directive requires that all data on the marking plate be replicated in the Instructions, with the exception of the Serial Number. It can therefore be inferred that the Year of Manufacture (which must be on the marking plate) should be replicated in the Instructions. However, this can cause problems where either the year of manufacture is part of the serial number (or in similar code form) or there is serial production spanning more than one year. How can this be resolved in a practical way that also meets the intent of the directive?

Answer: It is assumed that the intent of the directive is to make it transparent to the owner of the equipment when it was manufactured. In this case, it is the information on the marking plate that is critical. Therefore, where it is impractical to have the actual year of manufacture pre-printed in the Instruction Document (for example with continuous production spanning more than one year), it is appropriate for the Instruction Document to say that the year of manufacture is indicated in the marking of the product and to give advice how any date codes are to interpreted, including when the year forms part of the serial number. In this case, it is also appropriate for the Instructions to state the date on which they were printed and first came into force.

Subject:	**Directive, 2014/34/EU Article No.**	
	Directive, ESR No.	
	Directive, Module Annex No.	
	Standard, No.	

This ExNB Interpretation/Clarification Sheet has the sole purpose of clarifying the application of the EN Standards and/or of the requirements of Directive 2014/34/EU and related documents. It does not in any way change the content of the standards and/or of the requirements. It remains valid until an official answer is received from the European Commission of the relevant standardization bodies.