



APPLICABILITY OF MPE PRODUCTS TO LOW VOLTAGE DIRECTIVE 2006/95/EC

Paragraph 9 on page 7 of the August 2007 Application Guidelines on Directive 2006/95/EC, gives some guidance on assessing whether “components” including filters and capacitors fall within scope of the directive.

It suggests that components which need to be incorporated into a final product in order for a meaningful safety risk assessment to be carried out do not come within the scope of the directive. However, components which can be meaningfully assessed in their own right are covered.

MPE’s interpretation of this in relation to MPE’s products is as follows:

1. Many MPE filters and capacitors have exposed terminals and so are not protected from electric shock until mounted correctly in their final application so these are not covered.
2. Some filters and capacitors are mounted in enclosed housings offering some degree of shock protection, but until correctly installed, these usually have cable entry holes through which a finger could be inserted, so are also not covered
3. Certain products which may be stand-alone such as those fitted with commercial plugs, sockets and leads, such that they are ready for use just by plugging in are covered.

It is therefore only permitted to CE mark any products coming under description 3. Other products could only be assessed as part of the complete equipment or installation.

However, all MPE Ltd, suppression components are designed to comply with the appropriate safety regulations, with regard to creepage and clearance distances, temperature ratings etc. All components are also designed to meet the appropriate safety requirements with regard to voltage withstand and are 100% tested during manufacture.

It is essential that all suppression components are fitted as recommend in our catalogue General Notes section and in accordance with the latest IET wiring regulations (BS7671:2008).