

UNECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)

- Forum for dialogue
- Open to all UN Member States,
- Business associations, standards-setting organizations, certification bodies, test houses, civil society, consumer organizations
- Broad mandate: standardization, technical regulations, assessment of conformity, market surveillance, metrology...

Sectoral Initiatives: Goals

- Increasing safety for workers, consumers' health and protection of the environment
- Lowering barriers to trade
- Increasing cooperation among policy makers and enforcement authorities

Sectoral Initiatives: the CROs

- Sectoral initiatives are based on Recommendation L approved by the Working Party in 2000
- Sectoral initiatives set out to develop and implement CROs (common regulatory objectives)
- CROs define:
 - the requirements for equipments/products placed on the market or used in the workplace - with reference to international standards
 - how compliance with requirements will be assessed
 - which conformity assessment bodies will be recognized as competent to establish compliance
- CROs can be used as a model to draw up legislative instruments in countries that do not currently have regulations in the sector, or to align existing divergent national regulations

Sectoral Initiatives: In practice

- Authorities decide to work together on a specific sector
- They agree on CROs
- They transpose the CROs into national technical regulations
- Then, when products have been assessed in the exporting country as compliant with the CROs they can automatically be sold in other markets with no further assessment.

Sectoral Initiatives underway

- **Telecoms Equipment**
- **Earth Moving Equipment**
- **Equipment for Environments with Explosive Atmospheres**
- **Safety of pipelines**

Status of the initiative and next steps

- ┌ Started work in 2007
- ┌ Developed a questionnaire about regulatory in ex on major markets
- ┌ Collected replies from Australia, Brazil, the European Union, the Russian Federation, United States
- ┌ Developed a first draft of CROs
- ┌ Endorsed by the 5th meeting of the initiative which took place in Melbourne and put forward to the WP. 6 annual session in Nov 09 for final approval

The CROs: for which sectors/for which equipment

Mining

Refinery

Chemical Plants

Mills

Equipment



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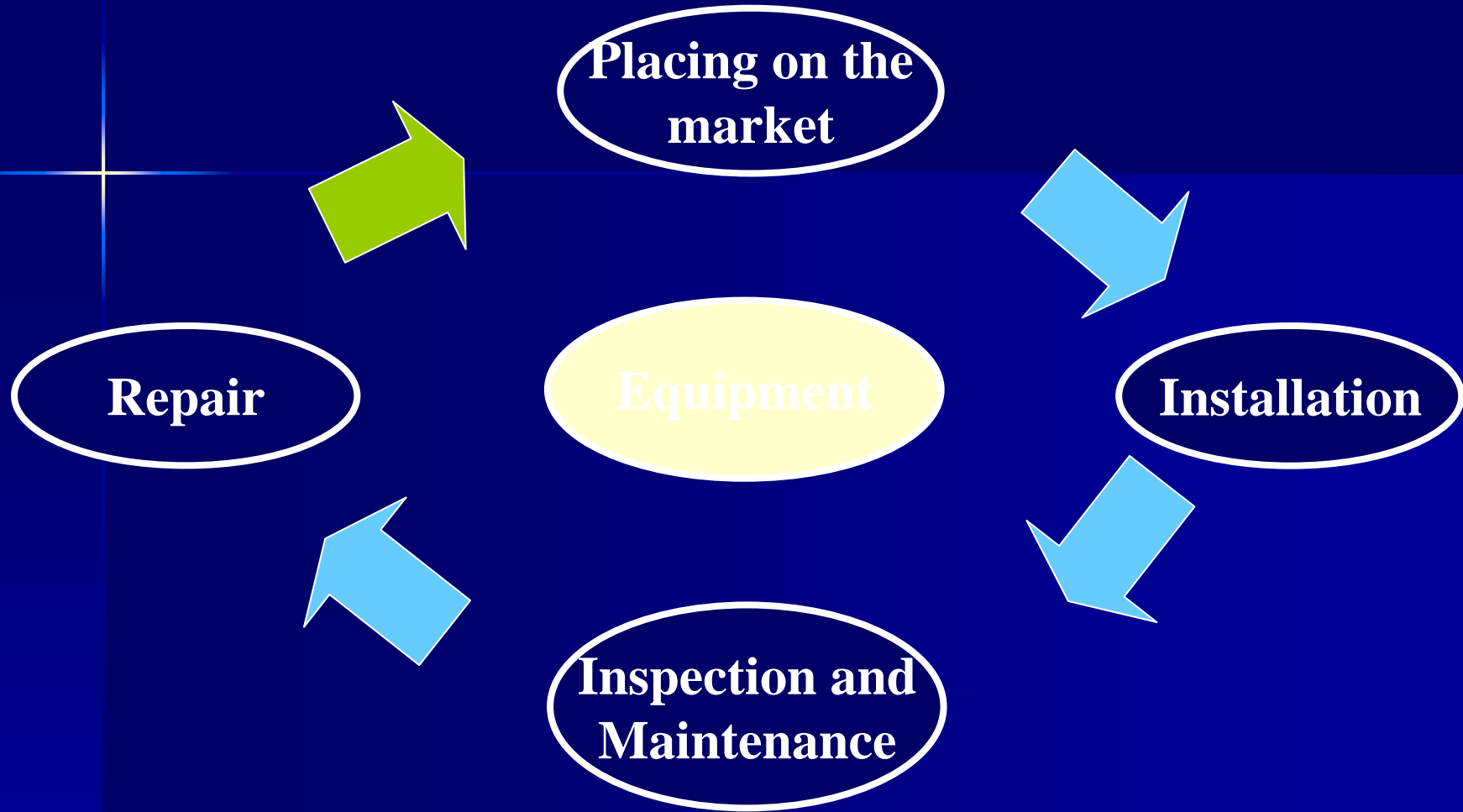


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Main elements of the CROs



Life cycle approach

CROs

- ┌ In the Ex industry governments require that conformity assessment be conducted by independent, third party inspection bodies.
- ┌ Main drawback: equipment traded internationally may have to undergo repeated testing and conformity assessment
- ┌ High costs
- ┌ For this reason, the CROs elect the IEC System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmospheres or IECEx as the compliance of choice

Why IECEx

- ┌ Operates on a worldwide basis
- ┌ Provides for equity among all participants and Members
- ┌ Ensures credibility by operating a single Ex Test lab and ExCertification Body
- ┌ Assessment system based on peer assessment principles
- ┌ Ensures transparency of rules, procedures and systems
- ┌ A single set of Rules and Operational procedures set by the industry itself (including regulators) to ensure industry and regulatory confidence

CROs and the mining industry

- ┌ Explosions in mines may be caused by a variety of hazards
- ┌ Using equipment that is safe will reduce the risk that an explosion may cause casualties or substantial damage
- ┌ The IECEx system is being used in the mining sector in a number of countries: in Australia, the mining authorities recognize IECEx certificates as a satisfactory means of establishing conformity with their regulations

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