



## Information on electronic tags for Marine equipment

The Directive 2014/90/EU on marine equipment (MED) has introduced the concept of electronic tagging which can replace the wheel mark.

On 8.04.2018 Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/414 of 9 January 2018 entered into force. This Regulation supplement the Directive 2014/90/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the identification of specific items of marine equipment which can benefit from electronic tagging.

The Annex to this Regulation contains a list of marine equipment falling within the scope of the Directive 2014/90/EU for which electronic labeling can be used.

The cost-benefit analysis demonstrated that, thanks to the electronic tagging of marine equipment manufacturers should benefit from an improved prevention of counterfeiting and ships' owners and operators should be able to carry out equipment traceability and stock control more easily while market surveillance authorities should benefit from direct and easy access to the relevant databases, which will improve the validation checks of certificates.

Requirements concerning electronic tagging are defined in the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/608 of 19 April 2018 laying down technical criteria for electronic tags for marine equipment. It comes into force on 10 May 2018.

The comparison of existing data carriers and data exchange architectures in the framework of the cost-benefit analysis resulted in the recommendation to use data matrix codes and radio-frequency identification (RFID) as the most appropriate technologies.

At the time of appearance on the market of dedicated solutions for marine equipment and publication of possible MarED recommendations, the issue of electronic tagging will be presented in more details.

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