EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations give effect to Directive 96/58/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 3rd September 1996 (O.J. No. L236, 18.9.96, p. 44) which made further amendments to Directive 89/686/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to personal protective equipment (O.J. No. L399, 30.12.89, p. 18) (known as the "PPE Directive").

The PPE Directive was implemented by the Personal Protective Equipment (EC Directive) Regulations 1992 and applied by the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1992, the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993, the Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 and the Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1993. Provision is made in these Regulations, with effect from 1st January 1997, for references in those Regulations to the PPE Directive to have effect as if they were references to the PPE Directive, as amended by the Directives specified in regulation 2(1) of these Regulations, including Directive 96/58/EC, and for certain "Additional information" to be omitted from the CE conformity marking to be affixed to all personal protective equipment which complies with the PPE Directive (as amended).