ATEX-approved air filters For explosive atmospheres

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ATEX-compliant air filters Safety for explosive atmospheres

Facilities such as flour mills need air filtration that delivers a clean production environment while ensuring safety through ATEX compliance.

Whether it's to ensure the safety and quality of your end product – as is the case in the pharmaceutical and food industries, or to stop contaminants from posing a threat to the inhabitants of your building, your air filtration system will be performing some kind of protection role in your building. In an ATEX environment, that purpose also extends to reducing the risk of explosion too.

This guide provides a brief overview of what you, as an employer and/or building operator, need to know about the ATEX directives in relation to air filtration.

WHAT ARE ATEX DIRECTIVES?

ATEX directives are a set of measures that describe what equipment and products can be used in environments with a potentially explosive atmosphere. The directives, which first came into force across the European Union in 2003, were introduced to protect workers from the risk of working in potentially explosive atmospheres.



WHAT IS AN EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERE?

ATEX derives from the directive's French title, Appareils destinés à être utilisés en ATmosphères EXplosives. An explosive atmosphere can arise when certain dusts (under 0.5 mm in diameter), gases, or combinations of the two come into contact with air and an ignition source – such as friction, electrical discharge or heat. Explosive atmospheres can occur deliberately as part and parcel of a process, such as where a company is working with a combustible material or generates such substances as a byproduct. Or explosive atmospheres can occur accidently due to a fault or breakdown, such as a gas leak.



Controlling dangerous substances and preventing sources of ignition are vital to reduce the risk of explosion. To do that, you will need the correct equipment.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MEETING ATEX DIRECTIVES?

ATEX directives apply to two separate groups. Directive 2014/34/EU (which replaced ATEX 94/9/EU in 2014) is for manufacturers of products and equipment used in potentially-explosive environments. ATEX 99/92/EG is for the users of such equipment and sets out the minimum requirements for operating an explosive environment.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

Employers and facility operators must identify areas in their buildings where explosive atmospheres may occur and classify these into predefined zones. The classification given to each zone depends on the likelihood of an explosive atmosphere forming, its expected frequency and its duration should one occur.

Equipment employed in explosive atmospheres is categorized (1, 2, or 3) according to the different zones in which it is suitable to be used. Any equipment that you use in each zone must be from the appropriate category in order to comply with the ATEX directive.

ATEX zones Identifying appropriate equipment

HOW ARE THE DIFFERENT ZONES DEFINED?

Atmospheres with hazardous gases, vapors and mists are categorized in zones 0, 1 or 2, where zone 0 represents the greatest risk of explosion.

Zone 0 – A place in which an explosive atmosphere consisting of a mixture with air of dangerous substances in the form of gas, vapor or mist is present continuously, for long periods or frequently.

Zone 1 – A place in which an explosive atmosphere consisting of a mixture with air of dangerous substances in the form of gas, vapor or mist is likely to occur in normal operation occasionally.

Zone 2 – A place in which an explosive atmosphere consisting of a mixture with air of dangerous substances in the form of gas, vapor or mist is not likely to occur in normal operation but, if it does occur, will persist for a short period only.

Atmospheres with combustible dusts are classified into zones 20, 21 or 22, where zone 20 represents the greatest risk of explosion.

Zone 20 – A place in which an explosive atmosphere in the form of a cloud of combustible dust in the air is present continuously, for long periods or frequently.

Zone 21 – A place in which an explosive atmosphere in the form of a cloud of combustible dust in the air is likely to occur in normal operation occasionally.

Zone 22 – A place in which an explosive atmosphere in the form of a cloud of combustible dust in the air is not likely to occur in normal operation but, if it does occur, will persist for a short period only.

WHAT EQUIPMENT IS NEEDED FOR EACH TYPE OF ZONE?

Zone	Equipment category	
0 & 20	1	
1 & 21	1, 2	
2 & 22	1, 2, 3	

ATEX and air filters What you need to know

WHY IS THE FILTRATION SYSTEM A **PARTICULAR RISK?**

The air handling unit (AHU) is a central component in any building with a controlled indoor environment, with all elements that make up the internal atmosphere - air, moisture, dust and gases - passing through the system.

The air filters are key to this - designed to capture and retain dust, gases and other contaminants. Of course, in a building with ATEX zones, these contaminants typically include the combustible material that poses a risk of explosion. That's why loaded filters must be protected from sources of ignition.

WHAT MAKES AN ATEX-COMPLIANT AIR FILTER?

The main sources of ignition that an air filter will face are electrical sparks and charges. So, the standout feature of an ATEX-compliant air filter is its ability to dissipate such electrostatic charges safely.

Much of this comes down to the materials used in the filter's construction. Compliant filters are typically constructed of conductive materials, such as metallic frames and faceguards, which are interlinked, grounded and tested to meet the earthing requirements of the ATEX directives.

THE MANN+HUMMEL RANGE OF ATEX AIR FILTERS

All products in the MANN+HUMMEL Pro ATEX range are designed specifically to be fully compliant with ATEX directive 2014/34/EU. Various designs and filter efficiencies are available, and all products are suitable for all ATEX zones in the atmospheres relevant to each filter type and efficiency. Our ISO 16890 products are also independently tested by the Eurovent trade association to validate their filtration efficiency, pressure drop and energy consumption performance.









AIRCURVE PRO ATEX

AIRPOCKET PRO ATEX

CUBE N PRO ATEX

AIRCUBE/NANOCLASS AIRSQUARE/NANOCLASS SQUARE PRO ATEX

Aircurve Pro ATEX

Product Range

Pro

Features

EX

Applications





Filter Class





KEY FACTS

- Filter series compliant with the European directive ATEX 2014/34/EU
- Synthetic filter media
- No fiber shedding
- Stable, lightweight design
- High dust holding capacity
- Top cost-benefit ratio
- M1-classed media according to NFP92-507

DESIGN

Open-pleated synthetic filter media installed in a lightweight metal case. Supported by galvanized steel mesh on both sides to provide extra pleat stability.

APPLICATIONS

For special air conditioning and ventilation systems in food, chemical and pharmaceutical industries, where demanding requirements for explosive atmospheres must be met.



The filters used in the application areas are electrically conductive and comply with the European ATEX directive 2014/34/EU for products used in explosive atmospheres.

Aircurve Pro ATEX

PERFORMANCE DATA

Filter Class	Dimensions	Flow Rate	Pressure Drop
ISO 16890	mm	m³/h	Pa
Coarse 60%	287 x 592 x 48	1700	105
Coarse 60%	490 x 592 x 48	2900	105
Coarse 60%	592 x 592 x 48	3400	105

SPECIFICATION

Recommended air flow	< 3400 m³/h	Rec. final pressure for efficient energy use acc. to EN 13053	Lowest value of initial pressure drop + 50 Pa, or initial pressure drop x 3
Heat resistance	Max. 70 °C	Moisture resistance	80 % rel. humidity
Regenerable	No	Flammability	M1 according to NF P92-507

OPTIONS

Frame

Galvanized steel

ZONE AUTHORIZATION

Substance	Zone	Explosion Group
Gases	Zone 0, Zone 1, Zone 2	IIA – Diesel, petrol, ethane, etc IIB – Town gas, ethylene, etc
Dust	Zone 20, Zone 21, Zone 22	IIIA – Flammable lints and floccuation IIIB – Isolating, non-conductive dust

Airpocket Pro ATEX

Product Range



Pro

Features

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ΕX

Applications



Filter Class

ePM1 ePM10 Coarse



KEY FACTS

- Filter series compliant wih the European directive ATEX 2014/34/EU
- Particle filtration and gas adsorption in one filter element
- Removes odors and harmful gases

DESIGN

Multi-layered media, tailored-sewn into pockets with sealed, conical spacer seams for an optimal V-shape. A galvanized steel frame provides rigidity.

APPLICATIONS

For special air conditioning and ventilation systems in food, chemical and pharmaceutical industries, where demanding requirements for explosive atmospheres need to be met.



The filters used in the application areas are electrically conductive and comply with the European ATEX directive 2014/34/EU for products used in explosive atmospheres.

OPTIONS

Header depth	25 or 20 mm
Gasket	EPDM flat gasket

SPECIFICATION

Recommended air flow	Flow rate ± 15 %	Rec. final pressure for efficient energy use acc. to EN 13053	Lowest value of initial pressure drop + 100 Pa, or initial pressure drop x 3
Heat resistance	< 30 °C (Peak 50 °C)	Moisture resistance	< 60 % (max. < 90 %)
Regenerable	No	Incinerable	No

Airpocket Pro ATEX

PERFORMANCE DATA

Filter Class	Dimensions	Pockets	Flow Rate	Pressure Drop*
ISO 16890	mm		m³/h	Pa
Coarse 80%	592 x 592 x 600	6	3400	70
Coarse 80%	490 x 592 x 600	5	2800	70
Coarse 80%	287 x 592 x 600	3	1700	70
Coarse 80%	287 x 287 x 600	3	850	70
ePM10 75%	592 x 592 x 635	8	3400	90
ePM10 75%	490 x 592 x 635	6	2800	90
ePM10 75%	287 x 592 x 635	4	1700	90
ePM10 75%	287 x 287 x 635	4	850	90
ePM1 60%	592 x 592 x 635	8	3400	140
ePM1 60%	490 x 592 x 635	6	2800	140
ePM1 60%	287 x 592 x 635	4	1700	140
ePM1 60%	287 x 287 x 635	4	850	140
ePM1 80%	592 x 592 x 635	8	3400	215
ePM180%	490 x 592 x 635	6	2800	215
ePM180%	287 x 592 x 635	4	1700	215
ePM1 80%	287 x 287 x 635	4	850	215

* Pressure drop tolerance ± 10%

ZONE AUTHORIZATION

Substance	Zone	Explosion Group
Gases	Zone 0, Zone 1, Zone 2	IIA – Diesel, petrol, ethane, etc IIB – Town gas, ethylene, etc
Dust	Zone 20, Zone 21, Zone 22	IIIA – Flammable lints and floccuation IIIB – Isolating, non-conductive dust

Aircube / Nanoclass Cube N Pro ATEX

Product Range

Pro

Features







Applications





Filter Class

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el	PM1



KEY FACTS

- Suitable for high flow rates up to 4,000 m³/h
- Compact, space-saving design
- Large active media area
- Ideal for robust industrial applications
- High temperature stability up to 120 °C
- Filter series tested according to EN 13501-1:2010 as E d0

DESIGN

V-shaped pleated cells with special thread separators to ensure even spacing of the pleats. Metal casing with an integrated handle for ease of installation.

APPLICATIONS

Fine dust and HEPA filtration for process applications in HVAC and clean room systems with high air flow rates.

OPTIONS

Frame	Galvanized steel, stainless steel
Gasket	EPDM flat gasket 1 or 2 sides; U-profile gasket 1 or 2 sides
Dimensions	305 x 610; 290 x 595; 595 x 595; 610 x 610; 610 x 762 mm



The filters used in the application areas are electrically conductive and comply with the European ATEX directive 2014/34/EU for products used in explosive atmospheres. Aircube & Nanoclass Cube N Pro ATEX are certified according to EN 13501-1:2010 in flammability class E and droplet formation class d0.

Aircube / Nanoclass Cube N Pro ATEX

PERFORMANCE DATA

	Filter Class		Dimensions	Flow Rate	Pressure Drop**
	ISO 16890	EN 1822	mm	m³/h	Pa
Aircube N Pro ATEX	ePM1 55%		610 × 610 × 292	4,000	160
Aircube N Pro ATEX	ePM1 80%		610 x 610 x 292	4,000	170
Nanoclass Cube N Pro ATEX		E11	610 x 610 x 292	3,400	190
Nanoclass Cube N Pro ATEX		H13	610 x 610 x 292	4,000	290
Nanoclass Cube N Pro ATEX	-	H14	610 × 610 × 292	3,400	270

* Catalogue items are constructed with stainless steel frames and feature a gasket on the dirty side.

** Pressure drop tolerance ± 10%

SPECIFICATION

Recommended air flow	Flow rate ± 10 %	Rec. final pressure for efficient energy use acc. to EN 13053 (Aircube)	Lowest value of initial pressure drop + 100 Pa, or initial pressure drop x 3
Heat resistance	Max. 120 °C	Recommended final pressure drop (Nanoclass Cube)	600 Pa
Regenerable	No	Moisture resistance	100 % rel. humidity
Fire classification	E d0 according EN 13501-1:2010	Incinerable	No

ZONE AUTHORIZATION

Substance	Zone	Explosion Group
Gases	Zone 0, Zone 1, Zone 2	IIA – Diesel, petrol, ethane, etc IIB – Town gas, ethylene, etc IIC – Hydrogen, acetylene, etc
Dust	Zone 20, Zone 21, Zone 22	IIIA – Flammable lints and floccuation IIIB – Isolating, non-conductive dust

Airsquare / Nanoclass Square Pro ATEX







Features



ΕX

Applications











KEY FACTS

- Various dimensions and extrusion types
- High-quality, anodized aluminum frame with stainless steel grid protection
- Filter series tested according to EN 13501-1:2010 as E d0

DESIGN

Pleated cells with state-of-the-art hotmelt spacing technology to ensure even spacing of the pleats. Stainless steel grid protection with dry sealing.

APPLICATIONS

Fine dust and HEPA filtration for process applications in HVAC and clean room systems.

OPTIONS

Extrusions	Various extrusion types available
Gasket	1 or 2 sides



The filters used in the application areas are electrically conductive and comply with the European ATEX directive 2014/34/EU for products used in explosive atmospheres.

Airsquare & Nanoclass Square N Pro ATEX are certified according to EN 13501-1:2010 in flammability class E and droplet formation class d0.

Airsquare / Nanoclass Square Pro ATEX

PERFORMANCE DATA

		Filter Class	Dimensions	Flow Rate	Pressure Drop*
	ISO 16890	EN 1822	mm	m³/h	Pa
Airsquare Pro ATEX FC	ePM1 55%	-	610 × 610 × 70	2,000	90
Airsquare Pro ATEX FC	ePM1 80%	-	610 x 610 x 70	2,000	140
Nanoclass Square Pro ATEX FC	_	E11	610 x 610 x 70	600	80
Nanoclass Square Pro ATEX FC	_	H13	610 x 610 x 70	600	95
Nanoclass Square Pro ATEX FC	-	H14	610 × 610 × 70	600	105

* Pressure drop tolerance ± 10%

SPECIFICATION

Recommended air flow	Flow rate ± 20 %	Rec. final pressure for efficient energy use acc. to EN 13053 (Airsquare)	Lowest value of initial pressure drop + 100 Pa, or initial pressure drop x 3
Heat resistance	Max. 70 °C	Recommended final pressure drop (Nanoclass Square)	600 Pa
Regenerable	No	Moisture resistance	100 % rel. humidity
Fire classification	E d0 according EN 13501-1:2010	Incinerable	No

ZONE AUTHORIZATION

Substance	Zone	Explosion Group
Gases	Zone 0, Zone 1, Zone 2	IIA – Diesel, petrol, ethane, etc IIB – Town gas, ethylene, etc IIC – Hydrogen, acetylene, etc
Dust	Zone 20, Zone 21, Zone 22	IIIA – Flammable lints and floccuation IIIB – Isolating, non-conductive dust



