

### 2.3.3. LOW VOLTAGE EQUIPMENT DOCUMENTATION

The low voltage directive, “Electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits” 2006/95/EC, replaces the previous directive 73/23/EEC. The directive is applicable to equipment with a supply voltage of 50 – 1000V AC or 75 – 1500V DC. If equipment itself takes a supply voltage of less than 75V DC but a mains adaptor is supplied with the equipment then it will all be subject to the requirements of the directive.

The Directive requires anyone placing relevant equipment on the market to;

1. Affix a **CE** mark
2. Raise a Declaration of Conformity (DoC)
3. Compile technical documentation.

#### The “self certification” route to compliance

There is no specific requirement to test equipment to a particular Standard, but there is the requirement to be able to demonstrate compliance. If a manufacturer DOES carry out testing to a relevant Harmonised EMC Standard (one published in the Official Journal of the European Community) then he can PRESUME conformity to the Directive without any further reasoning. If the manufacturer decides to demonstrate compliance by using a set of tests not Harmonised by publication in the Official Journal, he cannot presume conformity and may have to justify that the test plans he used are sufficiently rigorous.

In the majority of cases, this route is the cheapest and simplest method of demonstrating compliance as it does not require the intervention of a notified body.

#### Test standards

A list of test standards for this directive can be found on the Europa website in the following document:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2006:208:0001:0089:EN:PDF>

