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Machine Safety and related workflows and interfaces

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Procurement, design, construction, integration, commissioning, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of instrumentation is daily business in research facilities. A crucial element is to ensure, that the instrumentation (in most cases it could be regarded as a machine) is safe for all persons interacting with it. The Machinery Directive 2006/42/EG defines detailed requirements and paradigm to be followed, which are implemented into laws and norms. However, often external collaborators such as companies, institutes and universities are not aware or simply do not follow the requirements and not providing important documentation, which lead to intensive effort during the internal processes to compensate that.

Over the last 1.5 years at European XFEL, an interdisciplinary team from different groups across technical, scientific and administration with external advisors worked on re-developing the internal processes and interfaces in order to achieve a complete and efficient implementation of all steps and documentation of the machine safety aspects, starting from the initial procurement process down to the installation and commissioning. With this presentation I would like to give a brief overview and insights and would be very interested to learn how other facilities are dealing with this topic and share experience.

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