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Attention: Mr. James Bullock

ProSpare,  
Bestwood Road,  
Pixton,  
Nottingham,  
NG16 6NT

12<sup>th</sup> August 2009

Baseefa Project Number: 09/0652-2

Dear Mr Bullock,

## 'BFM' Fittings

The ProSpare equipment described above was referred to Baseefa for an opinion as to whether or not the product fell within the scope of the ATEX Directive 94/9/EC. Article 1 Paragraph 1 (a) of the directive confirms that the scope is limited to Equipment, defined as "machines, apparatus, fixed or mobile devices, control components and instrumentation thereof and detection or prevention systems which, separately or jointly, are intended for the generation, transfer, storage, measurement, control and conversion of energy or the processing of material and which are capable of causing an explosion through their own potential sources of ignition".

Baseefa confirms that there is no "own potential source of ignition" and that, therefore, the equipment is outside the scope of the directive and should not be marked in accordance with the directive.

There is, however, a potential ignition risk from electrostatic discharge, related to the potential manner of use of the equipment. The European Commission has given guidance that where a risk is solely related to an electrostatic discharge which may occur as a function of the use of the equipment, this does not bring the equipment in scope. See 5.2.1 of the ATEX Guidelines, available at <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/atex/guide/chapfive.htm>.

In order to mitigate the risk of ignition from an electrostatic discharge, the following precautions are recommended:

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**'BFM' Fitting (ø100mm up to ø650mm):**

- a. Flammable GAS applications - The BFM fitting shall **not** be used in flammable gas applications.
- b. Flammable DUST applications - dusts shall have a minimum ignition energy greater than 10mJ.
- c The BFM fitting shall be connected to suitably earthed metal pipework/ducting.
- d. The BFM fitting shall be inspected for damage to the plastic sleeve, around the snap ring and main sleeve, every time it is removed. If the sleeve is damaged the BFM fitting shall be replaced

Yours sincerely



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