Pressure Equipment Directive (PED): Please advise what directives/regulations/codes of practice apply to the design, manufacture and supply of vacuum vessels

Vacuum vessels are within the scope of the Pressure Equipment Directive (PED) unless they are transported while under vacuum, in which case the Transportable Pressure Vessels Directive may apply. You can read more details about the Directives here:

http://www.conformance.co.uk/directives/ce_pressure.php

http://www.conformance.co.uk/directives/ce_pimark.php

There are several standards dealing with these applications, but the most general starting point is probably EN 13445-1 "Unfired pressure vessels - part 1: General"