



## RoHS Policy (Restriction of use of certain substances hazardous to health)

### Background:

The Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive (the "RoHS Directive") bans the putting on the EU market of new Electrical & Electronic Equipment (EEE) containing more than the permitted levels of lead, cadmium, mercury, hexavalent chromium and both polybrominated biphenyl (PBB) and polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE) flame retardants from the 1st July 2006.

As a result of this Directive, manufacturers, producers and importers of EEE now need to ensure that their products - and the components and sub-assemblies of such products - comply with the requirements of the Regulations. The producers must be able to demonstrate compliance with the Regulations by submitting technical documentation or other information to the enforcement authorities on request and retain such documentation for a period of four years after the EEE is placed on the market.

Responsibility for the enforcement of the RoHS Regulations is the National Weights and Measures Laboratory (NWML), an executive agency of the Department of Business, Innovation & Skills, in the UK.

### Scope:

The RoHS Regulations apply to all electrical & electronic equipment containing hazardous substances placed onto the market in the United Kingdom on or after the 1st July 2006, and falling into any of the eight broad product categories below. The regulations also specify a voltage range within which these eight categories must fall to be covered by the scope. This is up to 1,000 Volts AC or up to 1,500 volts DC. These eight categories reflect eight of the ten categories detailed within the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive. In addition, the RoHS Regulations apply to both electric light bulbs and household luminaires.

The 8 product Categories of Electrical and Electronic Equipment Covered by the RoHS Directive include:

1. Large household appliances
2. Small household appliances
3. IT and telecommunications equipment
4. Consumer equipment
5. Lighting equipment (including light bulbs and household luminaires)
6. Electrical and electronic tools (with the exception of large-scale stationary industrial tools)
7. Toys, leisure and sports equipment
8. Automatic dispensers

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### **Maximum Concentration Values:**

For the purposes of the RoHS Regulations, a maximum concentration value of up to 0.1% by weight in homogenous materials for lead, mercury, hexavalent chromium, PBB and PBDE and up to 0.01% by weight in homogenous material for cadmium will be permitted in the manufacture of new Electrical and Electronic Equipment.

### **Compliance:**

Suppliers to Asda must demonstrate compliance with the above regulations by providing Asda Technical Department with satisfactory evidence of such compliance in the form of relevant technical documentation or information. Asda will accept 'self declaration' forms from suppliers as a basis for this compliance regime, (see attached sheet for a blank pro-forma of the required format).

However, it is required that all suppliers must have the relevant procedures and processes in place within their manufacturing facilities to ensure that only compliant materials are used within the construction of any product supplied to Asda. It is advised that this compliance is verified by the supplier by some form of product testing (either internally or externally).

In addition to the above, a market surveillance program will be carried out, by Asda, on all applicable products by making test purchases once they are launched onto the market, with appropriate tests carried out to confirm/deny compliance.

### **Enforcement:**

Once a product has been selected for market surveillance testing, it shall be sent to an independent test laboratory to have appropriate checks carried out. If a product is found to comply with the supplied 'Self Declaration' no further action will be necessary.

If a product is found to be non-compliant, the supplier will be notified of the failure in the first instance. Further samples may then be selected for additional testing. The testing costs associated with all failed products shall be charged back to the supplier. The supplier must then demonstrate by other means (i.e. independent laboratory testing) that the product they are supplying does indeed comply with the requirements of the regulations. Failure to do so will result in either a product being withdrawn from sale or recalled from the market.

All costs associated with such activities must again be met by the supplier.

A 'fine' for non-compliance will also be levied against each supplier for each product type that is found to be non-compliant. The value of this fine shall be £5,000.

To have a product re-listed, a supplier must then provide a detailed breakdown of the product that they supply listing all components, materials and chemicals that are used in the construction of the supplied product (this information can be supplied in the form of a product specification or Bill of Materials), with suitable testing to demonstrate that each of these comply with the requirements of the regulations.

If a supplier is found to be supplying products that do not comply with the ROHS regulations, then Asda reserve the right to withdraw the suppliers option to supply 'self-declaration' forms in future. These suppliers will only be allowed to demonstrate compliance by independent testing. This will be at the discretion of the Asda Development Technologist.

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