

# The WEEE and ROHS Directives

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# Planning for implementation of WEEE and ROHS

Three phases of consultation:

- Spring 2003: first consultation on implementation – set out all the options
- 25 November 2003-1 March 2004: recent consultation presented Government *preferred* options for implementation
- July 2004: draft regulations/guidance to issue

# WEEE Directive - requirements

- Separate collection of WEEE (4kg)
- Treatment according to standards
- Recovery & recycling - set targets
- Producer pays from collection onwards (not B2B)
- Option for business users to pay some or all of costs – B2B amendment
- Retailers to offer take-back
- Consumers to return WEEE free of charge

# WEEE - collection

The Directive's collection objectives are challenging for UK.

The Government has proposed to:

- develop the existing civic amenity site network;
- implement retailer take-back (in-store or compliance scheme); and
- endorse and develop producers' proposals for a "clearing house"

# The WEEE “clearing house”

A central “not for profit” body which would:

- coordinate collection from CA sites and retailer collection points around the UK
- provide a free collection service, on demand within stipulated timescale
- allocate WEEE direct to producers to arrange treatment, recovery, recycling
- could hold register of producers, collect data on products put onto the UK market
- would work with enforcement authorities - the Environment Agencies

# Treatment

- WEEE Directive sets requirements covering the treatment of separately collected WEEE
- Storage, removal of fluids, selective treatment, use of BAT
- Treatment facilities to be permitted via the new waste permitting regime
- Environment Agencies producing guidance on WEEE treatment
- Consultation on treatment guidance and proposed permitting arrangements in parallel with final WEEE consultation

# Recovery and Recycling Targets

- Producers to meet targets set out in Article 7
- Targets are set as a proportion of separately collected WEEE minus whole WEEE sent for re-use
- Different targets for different categories of WEEE
- Potential use of protocols to estimate the proportion of WEEE by category collected and recycled

# Producer financing of WEEE collection and recovery

- Directive's financing provisions are complex.
- Government is aiming to set a flexible framework in which producers can meet their obligations
- Government is committed to providing a choice for producers of “own product” compliance or membership of a compliance scheme
- Compliance schemes play a role in meeting Directive's requirements for financial guarantees

# Business to business

Producers responsible for collection, treatment & recycling of:

- “Historic” WEEE when being replaced (one for one)
- “New” WEEE unless alternative arrangement specified in contract

Business users responsible for:

- Treatment etc. of “historic” WEEE when not being replaced.

# Marking and information

Government proposes to meet the Directive's provisions by:

- Obligation on producers to meet the Directive's marking requirements – will take account of CENELEC standard
- Obligation on producers make available information, on request, on scope for recycling their products
- Obligation on retailer take-back organisation to signpost consumers to local WEEE collection

# Register of producers

- The WEEE Directive requires register of producers
- Government has proposed that registration be condition of placing electrical and electronic equipment on UK market
- Aiming at light touch registration
- Register could be held by “clearing house”
- Environment Agencies to enforce

# The RoHS Directive

- This is an Article 95 Single Market Directive
- Products which do not comply could be removed from the market within the EU

# RoHS Requirements

- From 1 July 2006, new electrical and electronic equipment put on the market should not contain...
  - Lead
  - Mercury
  - Hexavalent Chromium
  - Cadmium
  - Polybrominated Biphenyls (PBB)
  - Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDE)

# RoHS exemptions

- Medical equipment, monitoring & control
- ‘Spare parts’ that are used for the repair or reuse of electrical and electronic equipment put on the market **before 1 July 2006**.
- Exemptions listed in Annex
- Commission project to review exemptions just starting

# RoHS implementation issues

- Scope
- Maximum concentration values
- Compliance testing
- Enforcement

# Scope and the TAC process

- In 90% of cases the answer is clear
- But significant c10% in “grey areas”
- Particularly important for RoHS
- Need EU level decisions for most benefit
- UK has led the debate
- But, ultimately this is only guidance

# Maximum concentration values

- Commission proposal to set values similar to those in ELV
- 0.1% (Cd - 0.01%) by weight per homogenous material
- Proposal subject of member State discussions
- Not yet agreed – awaiting advice from Commission

# Enforcement

- UK study on enforcement:
  - Reported at end March
  - On behalf of TAC
  - Available test methods/standards
  - How to apply
  - Enforcement methods
  - Recommends self certification
  - Results published on DTI website

# RoHS implementation

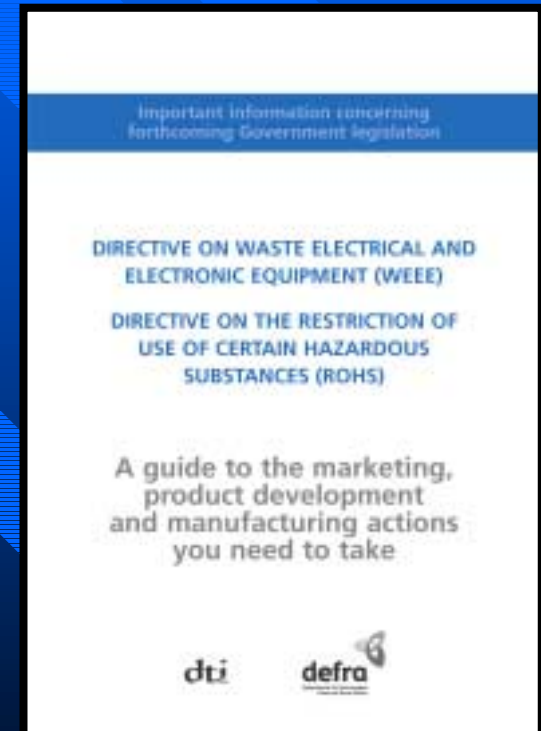
Where can I get help with this ?

- **Envirowise** – WEEE/RoHS Guides & Helpline  
(freephone 0800 585794)
- **NPL** – Lead-free advice (tel 020 8943 6805 &  
website [www.npl.co.uk/ei/news/faqs.html](http://www.npl.co.uk/ei/news/faqs.html))
- **Soldertec** – 0870 458 4242 & website  
[www.tintechnology.biz/soldertec](http://www.tintechnology.biz/soldertec)

# Need Help with WEEE and RoHS?



Information, services and 2 guides on the actions that you need to take concerning WEEE and RoHS can be found at both:



[www.dti.gov.uk/sustainability/weee](http://www.dti.gov.uk/sustainability/weee)  
[www.envirowise.gov.uk/electronics](http://www.envirowise.gov.uk/electronics)