



Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

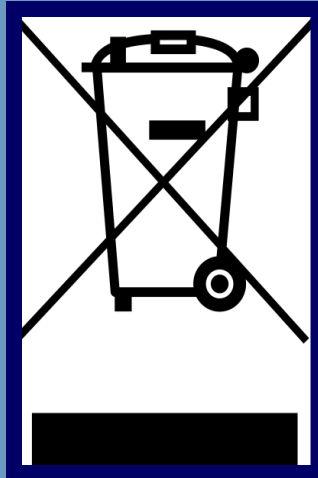
WEEE

What Is WEEE?

WEEE (2002/96/EC) is an EU directive that was created to enact stricter standards for environmental protection. Under this directive, it is necessary to create collection schemes where consumers may dispose of their EEE (Electrical and Electronic Equipment). This is to be provided to consumers for free in an attempt to increase recycling and the reuse of electronic products.

Why Do We Need It?

In 2008 alone, the European Union produced 51 million tons of equipment waste. This equals about 70.4 pounds per person. WEEE aims to reduce the amount of EEE being produced, as well as encourage producers to reuse, recycle, and recover the waste.



Do You Need to Comply?

If your product uses electricity for its main purpose, it is likely to be covered under WEEE regulations.



Steps to Being WEEE Compliant

Step 1: Identify if your product is applicable to WEEE.

Step 2: Register your product as an EEE. Note that many EU countries open registration only to local companies. US Companies would need a partnership.

Step 3: Find a Producer Compliance Scheme.

Step 4: Place EEE non-disposable label on your product.

Step 5: Report amount of EEE being put on the market.

EEE Categories Covered under WEEE

- Large and small household appliances
- IT and telecommunications equipment
- Consumer equipment
- Lighting equipment
- Electrical and electronic tools
- Toys, leisure and sports equipment
- Medical devices
- Monitoring and control instruments
- Automatic dispensers

How We Can Help

The European-American Business Organization has highly-qualified staff specializing in the EU Legislation. We can provide a variety of services based on your WEEE compliance needs. This may be just general information or a step-by-step walk through. We can guide your organization through the process and even set you up with a Producer Compliance Scheme or local business partnership.



Directive on Restriction of Hazardous Substances

RoHS

What Is RoHS?

RoHS (2002/95/EC) is an EU directive that was created alongside WEEE to regulate the impact of common hazardous substances on the environment and users of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE). This directive bans new EEE equipment containing any of the specified substances from entering the EU market.

Why Do We Need It?

The banned substances have been researched both at the EU and national levels, and both studies have come to the same conclusion. The only way how to significantly reduce the health and environmental risks caused by these substances is to replace them.



Who Needs to Comply?

Compliance with RoHS is required by anyone who wishes to sell electrical or electronic equipment on the EU market.

What Substances Are Banned?

- Lead
- Mercury
- Cadmium
- Hexavalent Chromium
- Polybrominated Biphenyles (PBB)
- Polybrominated Diphenyle Ethers (PBDE)

Don't Forget!

Directive on Batteries and Accumulators and Waste Batteries and Accumulators

2006/66/EC

Banned Substances

The batteries and accumulators containing certain levels of Mercury and Cadmium are banned from being placed on the EU Market. There is a list of exceptions to this rule including batteries used in emergency systems, medical equipment, or cordless power tools.

Recycling Battery Waste

If an already existing collection scheme is not available to end users of batteries, they may return battery waste to the producers free of charge. This shall be enforced by member states. Batteries must also be removable from any device they are in. The how and where to remove the battery must be included in the product instructions.

If you are seeking to address WEEE and RoHS compliance issues quickly and efficiently or if you need a European Collection Scheme, contact EABO today!