

# CUSTOMER LETTER

November 2015

# **Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS 2)**

Dear Customer.

Regarding TE Connectivity's activities with respect to the Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (RoHS), please be advised of the following:

#### **Executive Summary**

The new RoHS Directive 2011/65/EU (RoHS 2) became effective on 3 January 2013.

RoHS 2 deals with the same hazardous substances and the same maximum concentration limits as Directive 2002/95/EC (RoHS 1). Therefore, <u>all products meeting the substance restrictions of RoHS 1</u> remain compliant to the substance restrictions of RoHS 2.

The scope of RoHS 2 expanded to phase in the previously excluded categories of medical devices and monitoring & control instruments, as well as certain cables. In addition, RoHS 2 requires, for finished EEE<sup>1</sup>, the use of the CE mark to demonstrate compliance with the Directive. The commentary below provides more detail related to TE Connectivity's (TE) approach to ensure compliance to RoHS 2.

### **Awareness and Focus**

TE is fully aware of RoHS 2, which entered into force on 21 July 2011 and requires Member States to transpose the provisions into their respective national laws by 2 January 2013. TE has continued to monitor the developing implementation guidelines and national transpositions. TE is also actively engaged in efforts to further standardise the interpretation guidance documents of both authorities and industry associations.

The TE implementation of RoHS 2 is based also on the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document<sup>2</sup>, last updated on 12 December 2012, from the official working group established by the Commission and Member States at the 2011 RoHS/WEEE Technical Adaptation Committee meeting.

#### **Substance Restrictions**

RoHS 2 deals with the same six hazardous substances and the same maximum concentration limits as RoHS 1: lead (0.1%), mercury (0.1%), cadmium (0.01%), hexavalent chromium (0.1%), polybrominated biphenyls [PBB] (0.1%) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers [PBDE] (0.1%).

Therefore, <u>all products meeting the substance restrictions of RoHS 1 remain compliant to the substance restrictions of RoHS 2.</u>

Our <u>Check Product Compliance Tool</u> provides the compliance status of any TE product with respect to RoHS, as well as REACH and halogen content, and the option to download part specific Statements of Compliance (SoC).

<sup>1</sup> EEE = Electrical and Electronic Equipment

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Link to the FAQ guidance: <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/rohs">http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/rohs</a> eee/events rohs3 en.htm.



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#### **Expansion of Scope**

RoHS 2 expands the scope of products covered by phasing in EEE categories 8 (medical devices) and 9 (monitoring and control instruments) which were previously excluded under RoHS 1. Most TE component products that are used in equipment falling into these categories are already compliant and we expect no issues in providing compliant versions of any remaining products well before the respective phase in dates.

The expanded RoHS 2 scope also includes certain cable assemblies used to connect EEE or to provide power to EEE. Per the RoHS 2 FAQ version of 12 December 2012, the following cable assembly types are considered to be 'out of scope': optical cables, cables internal to EEE (this includes cables permanently attached to EEE), and cables with a rated voltage greater than or equal to 250 volts. For most cable assemblies, the timeline for being in scope is related to the timeline of the EEE with which they are used. Bulk cable only becomes in scope as of 2019. Note that the majority of TE's cable products already comply with the substance restrictions as a result of our efforts under RoHS 1. TE bulk cable sold to assembly houses will be compliant with the substance restrictions of RoHS 2, confirmed in our Statements of Compliance, but will not contain any RoHS compliance marking as TE does not know the compliance status of our customers' finished product.

The RoHS 2 Directive does not apply to non-electric tools, large-scale fixed installations, or to electrical and electronics equipment designed for use with a voltage rating exceeding 1000 volts AC or 1500 volts DC.

#### **CE Marking**

In contrast to RoHS 1, RoHS 2 is a CE marking Directive, and requires, for finished EEE, the use of the CE mark on the product to show compliance. The responsibility for affixing the CE mark resides with the manufacturer. For finished EEE where TE is the legal manufacturer, TE will affix the CE mark. For finished EEE that TE produces for OEMs, the CE mark can, similar to other customer specifications, be affixed by TE on the customers' behalf without TE assuming the OEM's (manufacturer's) responsibility (see section on technical documentation).

Please be advised that CE marking for RoHS 2 only applies to finished EEE in scope of RoHS 2. The use of the CE mark is not allowed on products not in scope of an EU Directive, and can therefore not be applied to TE component products (such as connectors, terminals, switches, relays, etc.).

### **Declaration of Conformity (DoC) and Technical Documentation**

In addition to placing the CE mark on all finished EEE in scope of RoHS 2, all CE marked EEE will require a Declaration of Conformity (DoC) and associated technical documentation. The responsibility for this DoC and documentation resides with the manufacturer. For finished EEE where TE is the legal manufacturer, TE will provide the DoC and prepare technical documentation per Harmonised European Standard EN50581. For finished EEE that TE produces for OEMs, it is only the OEM that can fulfil the obligations to provide the required documentation under its own name.

## **Communication of Compliance Status of TE Parts**

TE provides a <u>Statement of Compliance</u> (SoC) for all of our sellable parts. These SoCs reflect TE's declared level of conformity to the major global compliance initiatives (RoHS, ELV, REACH, China RoHS, and halogen content). They are readily available from our website at <a href="http://www.te.com/global-en/utilities/product-compliance.html">http://www.te.com/global-en/utilities/product-compliance.html</a>.





TE has an ongoing effort to make material declarations available for our products in the IPC-1752A format. Considering TE's breadth of portfolio, this is quite an undertaking and these documents will not be available for all parts for some time.

TE does not routinely provide analytical test data for our parts. With over 500,000 sellable items, we are not in a position to provide independent test data for all products.

# **Exemptions at risk for Expiration in 2016**

Due to the maximum validity rules for exemptions introduced in RoHS 2, there are 55 exemptions at risk for expiration in 2016, if there are no renewals granted.

Exemptions 6(a), 6(b), 6(c), 7(a), 7(b), 7(c)-I and 8(b) are the most routinely used exemptions by TE products. TE is following, and engaged in, industry workgroup activities to apply for renewal for these exemptions. Except for 7(b) and 8(b), these exemptions apply to a very small percent of lead used in metals for machinability and in chip component. The industry workgroups for these exemptions are confident that their applications for renewal will be granted. For exemptions 7(b) and 8(b), there is no active industry workgroup, and TE has started to find alternatives to phase out both exemptions in our products.

For additional information regarding TE Connectivity's Product Compliance initiatives and to access the Check Product Compliance Tool, please visit our Product Compliance Support Center at <a href="http://www.te.com/global-en/utilities/product-compliance.html">http://www.te.com/global-en/utilities/product-compliance.html</a>.

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Product Environmental Compliance

TE Connectivity