

RoHS and WEEE

Is your company interested in the recent developments in Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)?

RoHS – The RoHS Regulations contained in the RoHS Directive (2002/95/EC) ban the placing on the EU market of new Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) containing more than the set levels of lead, cadmium, mercury, hexavalent chromium and both polybrominated biphenyl (PBB) and polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE) flame retardants from July 1, 2006. There are a number of exempted applications for these substances, still more exemptions being considered

WEEE - The WEEE Directive (2002/96/EC) sets requirements relating to criteria for the collection, treatment, recycling and recovery of WEEE. It makes producers responsible for financing most of these activities; retailers/distributors also have responsibilities in terms of the take-back of WEEE and the provision of certain information. Private householders are to be able to return complete WEEE without charge.

These two initiatives are going to have a huge impact on many industries, and we at the McDonald Consulting Group believe this only the tip of the iceberg...there's still a lot of ground that's going to be covered and it's not clear which direction these initiatives will take right now.

Both of these subjects are very detailed and at times, convoluted. They are further confounded by the fact that the EU can make legislation, but until the individual countries pass this legislation into law (and they can be different in each member state, as the EU countries are called), we don't know how this is going to affect the electronics industry.

The McDonald Consulting Group offers the following services concerning RoHS and WEEE:

- Subscription service:
 - We will send you a monthly newsletter, letting you know what is going on in various countries, and what implementation information is available. We will also endeavor to obtain permission to share work-in-progress so trends and directions can be intimated...
- One-time services:
 - Development of a plan for RoHS / WEEE compliance. This plan can be used to track your progress toward compliance and highlight issues that must be closed.
 - Web text design (what does your website say about RoHS and WEEE? What are your customers asking?), marketing materials text, etc. to answer the most pressing questions of your clients.
 - Research on specific pb soldering process alternatives.
 - Research in a specific industry segment, about a specific company (competitor? Major customer?) and what they are doing.
 - Research on a specific country (where you have plants, suppliers, etc.).

The McDonald Consulting Group www.mcdbg.com | info@mcdbg.com

Southwest Office Suite 100, 11310 Stormy Ridge Road, Austin, TX 78739-4331 Ph 512.280.7175 | Fx 501.648.2036

New England Office Suite 250, 14 Beechwood Lane, Jericho, VT 05465 Ph 802.899.3543 | Fx 802.899.3069