

Passive Components ready to be used with Products according to Article 2 of directive 2011/65/EU

The new RoHS II Directive (Directive 2011/65/EU) went into effect on January 3, 2013, thus replacing RoHS I (Directive 2002/95/EC). This directive was published on July 1, 2011, under the official designation, "Directive 2011/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of June 8, 2011, OJ No. L 174/88."

There are a few changes for manufacturers of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) under RoHS II. The important differences between RoHS I and RoHS II are in the following areas:

1. Scope

- RoHS II defines a gradual extension of the requirements to all electrical and electronic equipment (EEE), cables and spare parts with a view to full compliance by July 22, 2019.
- RoHS II clarifies important definitions (Article 3) such as "homogeneous material."

2. Restriction of new substances

- The Commission will review the list of restricted substances by July 2014, and periodically thereafter.

3. Exemptions

- RoHS II defines clearer and more transparent rules for granting, renewing or deleting exemptions.

4. Coherence with other EU legislation

- RoHS II is part of a new legislative framework. In particular, this affects CE marking and Declaration of Conformity (including the harmonized standard EN 50581).

So far no additional substance restrictions had been added compared to 2002/95/EC; even the exemptions are unchanged.

Affected categories of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE):

1. Large household appliances

2. Small household appliances

3. IT and telecommunications equipment

4. Consumer equipment
5. Lighting equipment
6. Electrical and electronic tools (with the exception of large-scale stationary industrial tools)
7. Toys, leisure and sports equipment
8. Medical devices (subsequently valid from July 22, 2014)
9. Monitoring and control instruments including industrial monitoring and control instruments (valid from July 22, 2017)
10. Automatic dispensers
11. Other EEE not covered by any of the categories above (valid from July 22, 2019)

Like the preceding RoHS regulation, the RoHS II Directive does not apply to components. Nevertheless, RF360 provides products – according to the RF360 list of products that are RoHS II compatible – that are ready to be used with EEE of the categories mentioned above.

Other countries outside the European Union have either implemented regulations similar to RoHS II or are planning to do so. In China, for example, the »Administration on the Control of Pollution Caused by Electronic Information Products« (ACPEIP) went into effect on March 1, 2007.