

Molex and EU RoHS

The European Union Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) recast, Directive 2011/65/EU, entered into force on 21 July 2011. The recast directive includes additional obligations for manufacturers of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE). As a manufacturer of components used by EEE customers, many obligations do not apply directly to Molex. The recast directive obligations and their indirect impact to Molex are discussed below.

Scope

The EEE scope expanded under the recast directive. Additional categories, such as medical devices (category 8) and monitoring and control instruments (category 9) are no longer excluded, and other EEE (category 11) was added. These categories will be phased in over time. Molex is able to manufacture components of EEE to meet the RoHS substance requirements for manufacturers of products that fall into these and all other 8 categories.

Substance Restrictions

The recast directive did not add additional substances; the same six substances are restricted (listed in Annex II). Therefore, all components of EEE sold by Molex that met the original RoHS substance restrictions also meet the recast directive substance restrictions. In addition, a framework was created so additional substances can be added to RoHS in the future. Molex recognizes that HBCDD, DEHP, BBP, and DBP are identified as priority substances, and will monitor legislative changes to ensure all future substance restrictions are met.

Exemptions

The majority of Molex components used in EEE do not require an exemption to substance restrictions. Molex can identify when an exemption is used, and will work with customers to address expiring exemptions.

CE Mark and Declaration of Conformity

As Molex primarily manufactures components (which are not EEE directly within scope of the RoHS directive), Molex cannot affix a CE mark to these components of EEE or create a Declaration of Conformity (DoC). Molex will continue to identify components of EEE that meet the RoHS substance restrictions and therefore can be used in products within the EU RoHS scope.

Cables

According to the RoHS 2 FAQ¹, finished cables are considered EEE.

- When a cable is used internally, the CE mark and DoC of the EEE also cover the internal cable; there are no additional obligations for the internal cable.
- When a cable is sold together or marketed/shipped for use with an EEE, the CE mark and DoC of the EEE also cover the cable; a separate CE mark and DoC are not required for the cable.
- A CE mark and DoC are required when an external finished cable is placed on the market separately and is not part of another EEE. In these cases, when Molex manufactures EEE (such as a finished cable) on behalf of a customer, Molex will affix a CE mark when required by the customer.

For additional information regarding Molex's environmental initiatives please visit www.molex.com or contact ecocare@molex.com. To obtain specific product-related environmental compliance information please contact ProductCompliance@molex.com.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/rohs_eee/pdf/faq.pdf