



**DIRECTIVE 2002/95/EC ON THE RESTRICTION OF THE USE OF CERTAIN HAZARDOUS
SUBSTANCES IN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT (ROHS).**

CHECK LIST FOR REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL EXEMPTIONS

Industry has sent to the Commission's services a number of requests for exemptions from the requirements of the RoHS Directive that are additional to those currently covered by the study and the stakeholder consultation. In most cases these are not substantiated by scientific and technical evidence. The proposed check-list will enable the Technical Adaptation Committee (TAC) to carry out a first screening of the requests received. Proposals that successfully pass the screening process will then be considered for a possible exemption.

Article 4(1) of Directive 2002/95/EC on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment¹ provides 'that from 1 July 2006, new electrical and electronic equipment put on the market does not contain lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, PBB or PBDE.' The Annex to the Directive lists a limited number of applications of lead, mercury, cadmium and hexavalent chromium, which are exempted from the requirements of Article 4(1).

Adaptation to scientific and technical progress is provided for under Article 5 of the Directive. Pursuant to Article 5(1): "Any amendments which are necessary in order to adapt the Annex to scientific and technical progress for the following purposes shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 7(2):"

Article 5(1)(b) allows the exempting of materials and components of electrical and electronic equipment from Article 4(1) if their elimination or substitution via design changes or materials and components which do not require any of the materials or substances referred to therein is technically or scientifically impracticable, or where the negative environmental, health and/or consumer safety impacts caused by substitution are likely to outweigh the environmental, health and/or consumer safety benefits thereof;

In order to allow the TAC to consider submissions for additional exemptions, the information in Table I should be provided as a first step. The request for submissions should fulfil the criteria of Article 5(1)(b). The information provided should be supported, as far as possible, with relevant technical and scientific evidence.

¹ OJ L 37, 13.2.2003, p. 19

TABLE I – CHECK LIST

PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER EXEMPTIONS FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF ARTICLE 4(1) OF DIRECTIVE 2002/95/EC FOR SPECIFIC APPLICATIONS OF LEAD, MERCURY, CADMIUM, HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM.

Criteria	Information Please provide supporting technical and scientific evidence
<p>1. Please describe the material / component of the electrical and electronic equipment that contains the hazardous substance.</p> <p>Please indicate the type and quantity of the hazardous substance used in the homogenous material. Please indicate the quantity of the substance in absolute numbers and in percentage by weight in homogenous material.</p> <p>Please indicate the functionality of the substance in the material of the equipment.</p> <p>Please also provide an estimate of the annual quantities of the hazardous substance used in this particular application.</p>	
<p>2. Please explain why the elimination or substitution of the hazardous substance via design changes or materials and components is currently technically or scientifically impracticable.</p>	
<p>3. Please indicate if the negative environmental, health and/or consumer safety impacts caused by substitution are likely to outweigh the environmental, health and/or consumer safety benefits.</p> <p>If existing, please refer to relevant studies on negative impacts caused by substitution.</p>	
<p>4. Please indicate if feasible substitutes currently exist in an industrial and/or</p>	

<p>commercial scale.</p> <p>Please indicate the possibilities and/or the status for the development of substitutes and indicate if these substitutes will be available by 1 July 2006 or at a later stage.</p>	
<p>5. Please indicate if any current restrictions apply to such substitutes.</p> <p>If yes, please quote the exact title of the appropriate legislation/regulation.</p>	
<p>6. Please indicate the costs and benefits and advantages and disadvantages of such substitutes.</p> <p>If existing, please refer to relevant studies on costs and benefits of such substitutes.</p>	
<p>7. Please provide any other relevant information that would support your application for an additional exemption.</p>	