

RoHS Compliance Solutions from MEC

The RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances) Directive stipulates that electrical and electronic products destined for sale in Europe must be free of six hazardous substances by July 1, 2006. The six substances identified by RoHS are Lead, Cadmium, Mercury, Hexavalent Chromium, PBBs, and PBDEs.

With the compliance deadline drawing near, companies that manufacture, rebrand, or import electrical or electronic equipment destined for Europe must take action immediately to review existing products as well as new product designs and bring them into compliance with RoHS requirements. Although the burden of RoHS compliance lies with the producer, the entire supply chain is affected. Suppliers will play a key role in supporting your efforts to achieve compliance for all products by July 1, 2006.

MEC is strongly committed to supporting your efforts to comply with RoHS. We pride ourselves in delivering printed circuit board solutions that add significant value to your products. Today those solutions include the answers you require to achieve RoHS compliance as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible.



Getting the Lead Out

The use of lead-based solder in the assembly of printed circuit boards (PCBs) will not be permitted under RoHS. To prepare for this change, we have invested significant resources to identify and evaluate alternative RoHS-compliant solder materials, purchase and install new production equipment, and implement systems and processes necessary to document your compliance. Today, we are pleased to report that we have...

- Completed evaluation of lead-free solders – including pilot testing – which enables us to provide knowledgeable recommendations and implement effective and reliable compliant solutions for your PCBs.
- Implemented a new part number system to support your product record-keeping and documentation requirements.
- Implemented a RoHS assembly label to clearly identify that PCBs comply with the directive.
- Ordered new wave solder equipment which will be operating at full output in January of 2006. This equipment will help ensure the ongoing high quality of PCBs as we transition to the use of new materials and also provide the capacity and productivity required to meet the demand for compliant PCBs as the RoHS deadline draws near.



Total RoHS Compliance Support

Compliance with RoHS is complex and calls for comprehensive, thoroughly documented, and cost-effective solutions. MEC is prepared to provide PCB support services tailored to meet your requirements. Depending on your needs, we can...

- Audit the Bills of Material that accompany PCB components to verify RoHS compliance – it's a turnkey way for you to confirm total PCB compliance.
- Provide replacement knowledgeable, cost-effective replacement recommendations for any components that do not meet RoHS requirements. We'll save you the time-consuming burden of researching and evaluating alternatives yourself.
- Develop an overall compliance action plan to get your product ready to meet RoHS.

Your ability to become RoHS-compliant depends on the quality of support available to you. MEC has the knowledge and resources to provide the total support you need. For additional information about the RoHS Directive and MEC compliance solutions, ask your MEC representative or contact us at the numbers listed below below.

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