



Date

4th July 2008

Supplier information regarding EU directive 2002/95/EC on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment.

We are pleased to respond to your enquiry as follows.

Our reference

Before we go any further - Festo always makes every effort to avoid the use of any critical substances in its devices and products.

EU directives 2002/95/EC (RoHS) and 2002/96/EC (WEEE) have been adopted into the national bodies of legislation of all EU member countries – in Germany by means of ElektroG (German Federal Electrical and Electronic Equipment Act). Directive 2002/96/EC (WEEE) and 2002/95/EC (RoHS) are regulating the placing on the market of electrical and electronic devices within the European Union member states. The main focus is to reduce the volume of “waste electrical and electronic equipment” which is disposed of via community waste disposal services (household rubbish).

Your reference

Without a doubt - These EU Directives and the resulting national laws have created a great deal of confusion. Numerous individual discussions which we have conducted with our customers indicate that across-the-board compliance with RoHS is frequently demanded due to uncertainty as to how this legislation is to be applied. Incorrectly interpreted, these EU Directive thus impair the competitive ability of European companies. Festo's procedure is based upon the position paper issued by the VDMA (Society of Germany Machinery and Equipment Manufacturers) concerning WEEE and RoHS. The result: According to these Directives, Festo products are not subject to this law because they are usually used in large-scale stationary industrial tools (see point 6, annex IA, 2002/96/EC).

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Finding solutions to your automation tasks is our goal. Your machinery and equipment are subject to the WEEE and RoHS Directives issued by the European Union as required by your local authorities. This is what we understand from your enquiry. Many of our products are already “RoHS” compliant, but not all. In order to assure that you can continue to rely upon the quality levels you have come to expect from Festo, we are actively working on solutions for you.

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How is Festo adapting? – What's in progress?

- Festo has already revised its electronics manufacturing facilities, and is capable of producing RoHS compliant printed circuit boards using lead-free soldering processes upon request.
- Festo already has more than 3000 RoHS compliant products in its current product range.
- Festo has qualified substitute materials for its aluminium alloys and coatings, which are not yet available to a uniform extent from our network of suppliers.
- Together with its suppliers, Festo will change over a large portion of its product range to materials which are in compliance with the RoHS and "End-of-Life Vehicles" Directives during 2006 and 2007.
- During the course of discussions with customers who, after consulting the relevant national authorities for WEEE, have determined that their products are subject to WEEE, Festo has prioritised products which will be changed over to RoHS compliant materials.
- You can keep track of which products have already been changed over at **www.festo.com/en/rohs**.
- Festo is always happy to respond to your enquiries regarding RoHS compliance.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Smith
Quality Manager