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Batteries and the European Union WEEE and RoHS Directives

Due to numerous requests for compliance certification of batteries for the recently passed WEEE and RoHS Directives in the European Union, the information below will address why batteries are not subject to the WEEE or RoHS Directives.

The WEEE Directive

Batteries are not covered by the WEEE Directive because according to the WEEE Directive (art. 6.1 Treatment and its annex II) "batteries should be removed from any separately collected WEEE." When removed the batteries are then covered by the specific Directive 91/157/EC and also the Technical Adaptation (TA) 98/101/EC.

RoHS

Batteries are also excluded from the 2011/65/EC RoHS Directive, as per recital 14 of the RoHS language listed below.

- 14) This Directive should apply without prejudice to Union legislation on safety and health requirements and specific Union waste management legislation, in particular Directive 2006/66/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 September 2006 on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators and Regulation (EC) No 850/2004.