



# California RoHS update

---

22 August 2006

Electronics Product Innovation  
Hong Kong Productivity Council

## California - RoHS

---



- In 2003, California enacted the Electronic Waste Recycling Act that imposes recycling and restricted substance requirements on video display devices, via Senate Bill (S.B.) 20, and later via amendment by S.B. 50.
- Legislation: SB 20 / SB 50
  - The Act only applies to products sold to an end user, where end user may be defined as an individual, an organisation or business. Products sold for resale purposes are exempt from the law.

## California - RoHS



- Administered and enforced by:
  - California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB)
    - administers the electronic waste recovery and recycling payment system
  - California's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
    - determines the products covered by the State law

## California - RoHS



- Applied to “Video Display Device containing a screen greater than four inches, measured diagonally”.
- Definition of a video display device (VDD): an electronic device with an output surface that displays, or is capable of displaying, moving graphical images or visual representation of image sequences or pictures, ... including, if applicable, a device that is an integral part of the display, in that it cannot be easily removed from the display by the consumer. A VDD may use a CRT, LCD, gas plasma, digital light processing or other image projection technology.

*[Public Resources Code section 42463(t)]*

## California - RoHS



- Covered electronic devices (found in subdivision (c) of chapter 11 of the California Code of Regulations, title 22 ):

apply only to devices with a video display screen four inches or larger, measured diagonally

1. Cathode ray tube (CRT)-containing devices (CRT devices)
2. CRTs
3. Computer monitors containing CRTs
4. Laptop computers with liquid crystal display (LCD) screens
5. LCD-containing desktop monitors
6. Televisions containing CRTs
7. Televisions containing LCD screens (added December 2004)
8. Plasma televisions (added December 2004)

(Remark : As of December 2005)

## California - RoHS



- "Covered electronic device" does not include any of the following: *[Public Resources Code section 42463(f)(2)]*.

- (A) A video display device that is a part of a motor vehicle, as defined in Section 415 of the Vehicle Code, or any component part of a motor vehicle assembled by, or for, a vehicle manufacturer or franchised dealer, including replacement parts for use in a motor vehicle.
- (B) A video display device that is contained within, or a part of a piece of industrial, commercial, or medical equipment, including monitoring or control equipment.

## California - RoHS



- (C) A video display device that is contained within a clothes washer, clothes dryer, refrigerator, refrigerator and freezer, microwave oven, conventional oven or range, dishwasher, room air conditioner, dehumidifier, or air purifier.
  
- (D) An electronic device, on and after the date that it ceases to be a covered electronic device under subdivision (e) of Section 25214.10.1 of the Health and Safety Code.

## California - RoHS



- Elements: Recycling + Restricted substances
  
- Recycling (Starting from 1 January 2005)
  - requires retailers to collect recycling fees from consumers at point of sale for covered electronic devices.
  - Retailers remit these fees to the Board of Equalization (BOE)
  - Manufacturers must notify retailers annually of the covered products they supply, and notify consumers of where and how to return, recycle, and dispose devices.
  
- Restricted substances

# California - RoHS



## For Restricted Substances

### ■ Maximum Concentration Values:

■ Cadmium (Cd)	0.01	wt%
■ Lead (Pb)	0.1	wt%
■ Mercury (Hg)	0.1	wt%
■ Chromium VI (Cr <sup>+6</sup> )	0.1	wt%

- Apply to each "homogenous material" used in a device
- No control on the brominated flame retardants (e.g. PBB / PBDE)
- EU approved exemptions on lead, mercury, cadmium or hexavalent chromium will also be recognised in California

# California - RoHS



### ■ Current developments:

- DTSC is considering the addition of portable DVD players to the list of "covered electronic devices"
- The Assembly Bill A.B. 3001 proposed to add personal computers (PCs) to the list of covered electronic devices for both recycling and restricted substance components. (if approved, proposed effective date will be on 1 July 2007)
- The Assembly Bill A.B. 2202 proposed to cover all products covered under the EU RoHS directive. The scope of the substances would still only cover heavy metals and the scope of the recycling component would still only cover video display devices. (If approved, proposed effective date will be on 1 January 2010)