

Questionnaire

Exemption 4b Annex II Directive 2000/53/EC

“Lead in bearing shells and bushes for engines, transmissions and A/C compressors: 1 July 2011 [Review date: 07/2009]”

Stakeholders are invited to clarify the following specific questions as detailed as possible. In your contribution, please state which question number you are referring to.

- 1) Please specify the current annual quantity of lead in bearing shells and bushes covered by the existing exemption.
- 2) Please describe the development activities to substitute lead in bearing shells and bushes since the last review and describe the development and testing measures for each single application.
- 3) In the context of the last review of the RoHS Annex the usage of lead in bearing shells und bushes could be restricted to refrigerant-containing compressors for HVACR applications. Please clarify why in the case of automotive applications a more restricted use of lead in bearing shells und bushes will be possible / will not be possible respectively.

Furthermore, the following general questions can be used to support the exemption or taken as a basis for requesting an amendment or the discontinuation of the exemption:

- What is the application in which the substance/compound is used for and what is its specific technical function?
- What is the specific (technical) function of the substance/compound in this application?
- Please justify why this application falls under the scope of the ELV Directive (e.g. is it a finished product? is it a fixed installation? What category of the WEEE Directive does it belong to?).
- What is the amount (in absolute number and in percentage by weight) of the substance/compound in: i) the homogeneous material¹, ii) the application and iii) total EU annually for relevant applications?

Documentation provided by stakeholders including replies to the questions above should take the following points into consideration:

- Please justify your contribution according to Article 4 (2) (b) (ii) ELV Directive, i.e.

¹ Please refer to the FAQ document on RoHS and WEEE Directives available at http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/waste/weee_index.htm

- Justification for exemption still given or not given anymore according to technical and scientific progress;
- Substitution of concerned hazardous substances via materials and components not containing these is technically or scientifically either practicable or impracticable;
- Elimination or substitution of concerned hazardous substances via design changes is technically or scientifically either practicable or impracticable.
- Please provide sound data/evidence on why substitution/elimination is either practicable or impracticable (e.g. what research has been done, what was the outcome, is there a timeline for possible substitutes, why is the substance and its function in the application indispensable or not, is there available economic data on the possible substitutes, where relevant, etc.).
- Please also indicate if feasible substitutes currently exist in an industrial and/or commercial scale for similar use.
- Please indicate the possibilities and/or the status for the development of substitutes and indicate if these substitutes were available by 1 July 2003 or at a later stage.
- Please indicate if any current restrictions apply to such substitutes. If yes, please quote the exact title of the appropriate legislation/regulation.
- Please indicate benefits/advantages and disadvantages of such substitutes.
- Please state whether there are overlapping issues with other relevant legislation such as e.g. the Energy-using Products (EuP) - EuP Directive (2005/32/EC) that should be taken into account..
- If a transition period between the publication of an amended exemption is needed or seems appropriate, please state how long this period should be for the specific application concerned.

Stakeholder contributions shall be clearly marked “NOT FOR PUBLICATION” if they are not be posted as comments on the consultation website (http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/env/elv_4/library).