



BSI Kitemark™ for RoHS awareness and implementation

The answer to RoHS compliance

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...making excellence a habit.™

Revised in 2011, the EU's RoHS directive now applies to an increased range of electrical and electronic products. The BSI's Kitemark scheme for awareness and implementation helps companies comply with the rules — and win the confidence of enforcement agencies and customers.

What is RoHS?

The EU directive for the Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment, known as RoHS, is designed to protect human health and the environment, and is linked to the WEEE directive on the disposal of electrical and electronic waste. It controls the use of certain hazardous substances — including metals and manufactured chemicals — in electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) at the point of manufacture.

First adopted by the EU in 2003, it sets maximum limits for:

- Lead
- Hexavalent chromium
- Mercury
- Polybrominated biphenyls
- Cadmium
- Polybrominated diphenyl ethers.

The directive was revised in 2011 as RoHS 2 — and is now significantly broader in scope.

Who's affected?

The rules apply across the supply chain — to manufacturers and their authorised representatives, distributors, retailers, importers and suppliers of electrical and electronic equipment — and 'catch' increasing numbers of companies.

Implemented in phases, RoHS 2 gradually extends the substance restrictions to new categories of products. By the latter half of 2019, the directive will cover:

- Large household appliances
- Small household appliances
- IT and telecommunications equipment
- Consumer equipment
- Lighting equipment
- Electrical and electronic tools

- Toys, leisure and sports equipment
- Automatic dispensers
- Medical devices (from July 2014)
- Monitoring and control instruments (from July 2014)
- In vitro diagnostic medical devices (from July 2016)
- Industrial monitoring and control instruments (from July 2017)
- All non-exempt EEE not captured in the above (from July 2019).

Exemptions tend to apply only to large-scale EEE and that not in general use — for example, "that necessary for the protection of the essential interests of the security of Member States", that "designed to be sent into space", fixed industrial installations and tools, and "active implantable medical devices".

Since meeting the terms of the directive can mean changes to product design, it is essential that companies 'new' to the directive plan ahead now.





How BSI can help

An independent and trusted body, the BSI tests products for levels of the hazardous substances and determines whether a company is in contravention of the rules. It also promotes best practice, helping develop the processes and systems that reduce legal and compliance risks.

The protocol for the Kitemark scheme in effect sets its own standard, augmenting the criteria for BS EN 50581, the harmonised European standard for technical documentation for EEE, specified under RoHS.

Companies are only given a licence to use the RoHS BSI Kitemark if they:

- demonstrate strong awareness of the RoHS requirements and other related product legislations
- are seen to maintain controls and procedures to ensure compliance with these regulatory requirements over the long term
- meet the requirements of BS EN 50581, as defined in the protocol for the Kitemark scheme.

A company with the licence demonstrates its compliance not only with the law but also with best business practice — and is therefore more likely to win the confidence of both enforcement agencies and customers.

A bespoke service

The BSI does much more than test products and tick boxes. It provides help, guidance and advice, responding to the particular needs of your business.

Our RoHS service includes:

- Gap analysis and RoHS readiness reports
- A route to focused testing based on risk
- RoHS awareness training
- Supply chain reviews and assessments.

A pre-assessment phase helps determine the scope of your contract with BSI and familiarises inspectors with your business.

The practicalities

Once the pre-assessment phase is complete, BSI inspectors visit your site and identify 'high risk' items. They then test samples of products, typically using X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) techniques. Companies are informed promptly of products that fail tests or are deemed to be at 'risk'. They can then take the necessary corrective action — or, in marginal cases, submit

samples for further testing and chemical analysis.

Inspectors also assess applicants' materials management systems against BS EN 50581 and the approved BSI Kitemark process.

Following the issue of the Kitemark licence, companies are continually re-assessed. The frequency and duration

of return visits depends on a number of factors — for example, the scope of the contract, and whether the company was already certified to ISO 9001, the international standard for Quality Management Systems (QMS). Two return visits a year, however, are typical.

The Key benefits



The BSI Kitemark for RoHS awareness and implementation:

- Builds confidence throughout the supply chain
- Provides documentary evidence of compliance to RoHS enforcement bodies
- Presents a positive profile to consumers
- Reduces overall RoHS testing costs
- Offers a bespoke service.

To start the certification process and request a quote please contact us

Call: **+44 (0)345 0765 606**

Email: **product.certification@bsigroup.com**

or visit: **bsigroup.com/kitemark**

About BSI

BSI is the business standards company that helps organizations make excellence a habit – all over the world. We have 58 offices worldwide, serving more than 65,000 customers in 150 countries. Established in 1901, we were the world's first national standards body.

As well as providing independent third party testing and certification for products, we are a notified body for 18 European Directives.

We certify organizations to a wide range of international standards, including ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001.



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