

General questionnaire

The following questions can be used to support an **exemption request** (the applicant's exemption request which is posted on the consultation website should already contain answers to these questions) or to argue why an exemption request is not justified:

- For which substance(s) or compound(s) should the requested exemption be valid?
- 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 RoHS 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 RoHS relevant applications?
- Please check and justify why the application you request an exemption for does not overlap with already existing exemptions respectively does not overlap with exemption requests covered by previous consultations.
- Please provide an unambiguous wording for the (requested) exemption.

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

- Please justify your contribution according to Article 5 (1) (b) RoHS Directive whereas:
 - 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;
 - Negative environmental, health and/or consumer safety impacts caused by substitution are either likely or unlikely to outweigh environmental, health and/or consumer safety benefits thereof (If existing, please refer to relevant studies on negative or positive impacts caused by substitution).
- 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

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

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 2006 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 ELV Directive that should be taken into account.
- If a transition period between the publication of an amended Annex is needed or seems appropriate, please state how long this period should be for the specific application concerned.