

“Japan 4EE Input to Stakeholder Consultation – Stakeholder consultation held as part of a “Study to support the review of the list of restricted substances and to assess a new exemption request under RoHS 2 (Pack 15)” on diantimony trioxide



**Japan 4EE Input to Stakeholder Consultation –
Stakeholder consultation held as part of a “Study to support the
review of the list of restricted substances and to assess a new
exemption request under RoHS 2 (Pack 15)”
Especially on diantimony trioxide**

27th January, 2020

Name of the associations which make this input:

The Japanese electric and electronic (E&E) industrial associations:

Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA);
Japan Electrical Manufacturers' Association (JEMA);
Japan Business Machine and Information System Industries Association (JBMIA); and
Communications and Information network Association of Japan (CIAJ)

With cooperation of the following Medical and Monitoring & Control Equipment Industrial Associations:

The Japan Analytical Instruments Manufacturers' Association (JAIMA)
Japan Electric Measuring Instruments Manufacturers' Association (JEMIMA)
The Japan Federation of Medical Devices Associations (JFMDA)
The Japan Measuring Instruments Federation (JMIF)
NIPPON ELECTRIC CONTROL EQUIPMENT INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION (NECA)
Semiconductor Equipment Association of Japan (SEAJ)

Contact details of responsible person for this contribution

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We would like to submit our input to Stakeholder Consultation – Stakeholder consultation held as part of a “Study to support the review of the list of restricted substances and to assess a new exemption request under RoHS 2 (Pack 15)“, on

Diantimony trioxide

<https://rohs.exemptions.oeko.info/index.php?id=332>

Draft ROHS Annex II Dossier for diantimony trioxide.

Restriction proposal for substances in electrical and electronic equipment under RoHS

[https://rohs.exemptions.oeko.info/fileadmin/user_upload/RoHS_Pack_15/4th_Consultation/Diantimony trioxide RoHS Dossier V2 final 20191204.pdf](https://rohs.exemptions.oeko.info/fileadmin/user_upload/RoHS_Pack_15/4th_Consultation/Diantimony_triocide_RoHS_Dossier_V2_final_20191204.pdf)

as follows:

General comments

We basically support the recommendations in the draft report.

We strongly support proposed conclusions of draft dossier on diantimony trioxide, which do not recommend inclusion of the substances under consideration to the list of restricted substances under RoHS. Especially, we appreciate it that the draft dossiers have carefully considered about the condition in 6(1)(d) of Directive 2011/65/EU for assessing the substances under RoHS. We consider that this condition, “*(the substance) could be replaced by substitutes or alternative technologies which have less negative impacts*”, would be indispensable to consider feasible regulations on important chemicals used in the industry.

We don't have any new information to be added to the previous ones, but we attach the previous input again to show the situation has not been changed since then.
Japan_4EE_Input_to_1st_Consultation_on_diantimony_triocide-15-06-2018

It should be appropriately judged whether a certain substances should be restricted under RoHS or not. That is, the assessment should be in line with the law text of the Directive, based on scientific and technical facts, and covering socio-economic effect. For that purpose, a neutral evaluation is indispensable, which does not premise a conclusion proposing a restriction. Therefore, we highly value the consultant's attitude concluding that a restriction is not recommended, when a restriction cannot be justified by the detailed assessment based on various available information even though the substance is advanced to the stage of making a dossier.

Once a dossier concludes that a restriction for a certain substance(s) is not recommended, the conclusion should be clearly noted in the RoHS substance inventory even if the substance remains listed. We believe that duplicated assessment should be avoided under the same purpose of a restriction under RoHS unless the situation of use of the substances is drastically changed. Especially, when the substitution of a substance is proven physically and/or chemically difficult by the assessment, or when a substance is expected as very useful and indispensable in future technology, we believe that re-assessment of such substances would not be efficient way of using time and resources.

Antimony is still regarded as “critical” for EU industry and listed in the latest CRM list based on “Methodology for establishing the EU list of critical raw materials”. It is the results of new calculating formula to judge Economic importance, and antimony is judged as important. European Commission publishes “Report on Critical Raw Materials and the Circular Economy” in 2018, thus the examination and discussion on the CRM policy is continued lively. We cannot

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know why the explanation about the cooperation or coordination with other policies including CRM is completely lacked in the recent studies on RoHS after the choice of previous list of priority substances. Especially about CRMs, they should be discussed under wider framework covering overall circular economy policy at first before starting studies under RoHS, in view of the industrial and economic importance.

Consultation period is too short to prepare concrete comments

Only in 6 weeks as the period for contribution, all we can do is to reply to the consultation solely based on the materials at our hand and our knowledge. At this time, proposed consultations are fortunately “not to recommend restrictions under RoHS”, however, if a restriction were proposed, more time would be needed to gather further information showing whether a restriction under RoHS would be really needed (or most efficient option) or not.

We industry would like to request to set at least 180 days (same as the period set for the consultation of draft dossiers by RAC/SEAC under REACH) as the period for comments on draft dossiers in the future consultation so that we may give more useful input to the consultation after more-detailed review. We believe full consideration among all the stakeholders would make the RoHS Directive contribute to European sustained development.

We sincerely hope that you will give the foregoing comments your kind and careful examination. We would very much appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

About Japanese electric and electronic (E&E) industrial associations:

About JEITA

The objective of the Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA) is to promote the healthy manufacturing, international trade and consumption of electronics products and components in order to contribute to the overall development of the electronics and information technology (IT) industries, and thereby further Japan's economic development and cultural prosperity.

About CIAJ

Mission of Communications and Information network Association of Japan (CIAJ). With the cooperation of member companies, CIAJ is committed to the healthy development of info-communication network industries through the promotion of info-communication technologies (ICT), and contributes to the realization of more enriched lives in Japan as well as the global community by supporting widespread and advanced uses of information in socio-economic and cultural activities.

About JBMIA

Japan Business Machine and Information System Industries Association (JBMIA) is the industry organization which aims to contribute the development of the Japanese economy and the improvement of the office environment through the comprehensive development of the Japanese business machine and information system industries and rationalization thereof.

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About JEMA

The Japan Electrical Manufacturers' Association (JEMA) consists of major Japanese companies in the electrical industry including: power & industrial systems, home appliances and related industries. The products handled by JEMA cover a wide spectrum; from boilers and turbines for power generation to home electrical appliances. Membership of 291 companies, <http://www.jemanet.or.jp/English/>

About Medical and Monitoring & Control Equipment industrial associations:

About JAIMA

The Japan Analytical Instruments Manufacturers' Association (JAIMA) is a sole industry association of Analytical Instruments in Japan, which established under the Japanese law. Member of JAIMA are more than 200 leading companies in Japan. JAIMA is to contribute to the development of the Japanese economy and the cultural lives of citizens in Japan through efforts to improve and advance technologies related to analytical instruments and the analytical instruments industry for the purpose of the advancement of science & technology.

About JEMIMA

Japan Electric Measuring Instruments Manufacturers' Association (JEMIMA) is the only one association representing this industry in Japan. Electric measuring instruments support all kinds of manufacturing industries as so-called "Mother tools" that support innovative activities for research, development, design and manufacturing.

JEMIMA has active committees that collect technical and market information of electric measuring instruments, and provide member companies with useful information for their businesses. Regarding regulations such as environmental, safety and EMC (Electro-Magnetic Compatibility) issues, JEMIMA has been investigating details and providing proposals to legislative organizations summarizing requirements from the industry in cooperation with international related organizations.

Through these activities, JEMIMA will continue to contribute to the steady growth of electric measuring instruments and related industries in Japan.

About JFMDA

The Japan Federation of Medical Devices Associations (JFMDA) was founded in February 1984 by medical device associations consisting of manufacturers and suppliers of medical and health-care devices, equipment, instruments and materials. Since then, JFMDA has been addressing various national and international issues related to all its member associations. By taking appropriate actions on these issues, and through the support of innovation and sustainable supply of medical devices and technologies to the world, JFMDA has contributed to the growth of the industries it represents and to the improvement of welfare and health care in Japan. JFMDA became a legal entity as of January 6th, 2014.

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About JMIF

The Japan Measuring Instruments Federation (JMIF) is a corporation aggregate with leading manufacturers and organizations of measuring instruments in Japan as its members. JMIF was established in 1952 in order to upgrade measuring instruments and to develop the whole measuring instruments industry, through which JMIF would eventually contribute to the development of the economy and society of Japan and to the improvement of Japanese people's living.

The main activities by JMIF include supporting new technology development of measuring instruments, conducting demand trends survey, developing domestic and overseas markets, and enhancing global cooperation.

About NECA

NIPPON ELECTRIC CONTROL EQUIPMENT INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION (NECA) was established in 1964 and promoting the growth of the electric control equipment fields such as Relays, Switches, Sensors, PLC/FA System Equipment and others, Safety Control Equipment. NECA has 35 companies as regular members and 43 companies as support members, and shipping amount of relevant products were 738.6billion Yen in FY2017. Our website provides further information on our recent news and activities:

About SEAJ

Semiconductor Equipment Association of Japan (SEAJ), founded in March 1985, promoted by the major semiconductor equipment manufacturers, is a nationwide organization of semiconductor manufacturing equipment, flat panel display (FPD) manufacturing equipment and equipment manufacturers that applied their technology and related equipment manufacturers. SEAJ had existed as an incorporated association from July in 1995. From April 1st in 2012, SEAJ has been authorized by Cabinet Office as a General Incorporated Association that related to the reform of the public-interest corporations system.

The Japanese semiconductor manufacturing equipment, FPD manufacturing equipment and equipment industries that applied their technology is playing great role in supporting the world's semiconductor industry due to the manufacture of semiconductors, FPDs that lay the foundation of the advanced information oriented industries by supplying manufacturing equipment and the indispensable producer goods to the semiconductor industry to Japan and abroad.

In order to promote the development of the semiconductor manufacturing equipment industry and other related industries and to contribute to the further development such as investigative research on production and distribution, proposing and indicating the direction of semiconductor equipment technologies, investigating and studying the area of Emerging Technology, the activities of popularization and enlightenment by conducting of various seminars and lectures, planning of project and promotion of standardization.