

Specific questions exemption 22

“Lead as impurity in RIG (rare earth iron garnet) Faraday rotators used for fibre optic communications systems”

The following specific questions should be answered in your stakeholder contribution if you support exemption 22 to be continued / amended / discontinued:

Note:

During the last evaluation in 2006, this exemption had been recommended to be withdrawn, since a stakeholder had presented a RoHS-compliant version of a RIG Faraday rotator and had requested a withdrawal of the exemption (the time needed for qualification of the RoHS compliant RIG Faraday rotator was not finally clarified). The exemption so far has not been deleted from the Annex.

1. Please state the **amount of lead** used per application, the lead content in the homogeneous material, the annual production volume as well as the number of applications related to exemption 22 put on the EU market annually.
2. Please indicate the status of the **qualification procedure** and use of lead-free (below the maximum allowed level of lead) RIG Faraday rotators in fibre optic communication systems.
3. In case you believe that the exemption can not yet be deleted, please justify in detail and present a **roadmap** specifying efforts, the milestones and the **expiry date** for a shift towards the use of lead-free (below the maximum allowed level of lead) RIG Faraday rotators in fibre optic communication systems.
4. What has changed since the **last evaluation** in 2006?