The RoHS Directive (Restriction of the use of certain Hazardous Substances in electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) Directive), 2011/65/EU has been in force since January 2013. It controls the use of various substances with the intention of protecting human health and the environment, including in the safe disposal of waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE).

The six substances are listed in Annex II of the Directive and are lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls (PBB) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE).

A new Directive has now been published to add to the list of controlled substances. This Directive is 2015/EC and is titled Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2015/863 of 31 March 2015. It amends Annex II to Directive 2011/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the list of restricted substances. This amending Directive adds four more substances to the original six: bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), butyl benzyl phthalate (BBP), dibutyl phthalate (DBP) and diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP).

The amending Directive came into force from 22nd July 2019 and all products with a few exceptions need to meet it. The exceptions are medical devices and monitoring and control instruments, including industrial monitoring and control instruments. However, the restriction of DEHP, BBP, DBP and DIBP on these products will need to be applied from 22nd July 2021.

Exceptions are also for cables and spare parts for EEE placed on the market before 22nd July 2019 and medical devices and monitoring and control instruments, including industrial monitoring and control instruments placed on the market before 22nd July 2021.

The homogeneous content of the 10 substances which are required to be restricted after 22nd July 2019 relate to:

- Lead (0.1%)
- Mercury (0.1%)
- Cadmium (0.01%)
- Hexavalent chromium (0.1%)
- Polybrominated biphenyls (PBB) (0.1%)
- Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE) (0.1%)
- Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) (0.1%)
- Butyl benzyl phthalate (BBP) (0.1%)
- Dibutyl phthalate (DBP) (0.1%)
- Diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP) (0.1%)
The maximum content values are by weight of a homogeneous material i.e. a material which has a uniform composition and cannot be mechanically broken down by unscrewing, cutting, grinding, crushing etc into different materials. Examples would be plastic, ceramic, glass, metal etc.

**Responsibility**

Under the RoHS Directive, anyone that places an Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) on the market is responsible for ensuring that it complies with the RoHS Directive and this includes manufacturers, importers and distributors. Responsible entities should be able to provide a competent national authority with all documentation and information required to demonstrate conformity with the Directive and must make technical documentation available for inspection by national surveillance authorities for 10 years following placing the EEE on the market. They must also ensure that production procedures are sufficiently robust to keep building compliant products and be ready to remove non-compliant product from the market.

**Exemptions & Delegated Directives**

Directive 2011/65/EU lists applications that are exempted in Annex III and these are usually for technical reasons where there is no viable technical solution currently available. However, the EU have recently been publishing Delegated Directives that will remove the exemptions depending on the category of equipment they are used in. There are eleven categories of EEE and these are listed in Annex I of 2011/65/EU:

- Large household appliances
- Small household appliances
- IT and telecommunications equipment
- Consumer equipment
- Lighting equipment
- Electrical and electronic tools
- Toys, leisure and sports equipment
- Medical devices
- Monitoring and control instruments, including industrial and control instruments
- Automatic dispensers
- Other EEE not covered by any of the categories above

Reference to the individual delegated Directive must be made to see the exact date that the exemption will be removed for each category of equipment.

**Product identification**

The RoHS Directive has been a harmonised Directive since January 2013 meaning that compliance is indicated by placing a CE logo on the product and a supporting Declaration of Conformity must be available. A CE logo on any EEE falling within the scope of the RoHS Directive gives presumption that the product is compliant. For this reason, XP Power product no longer has a separate symbol to indicate that it meets the RoHS Directive, however, some older legacy product might still show the symbol to avoid any mistaken idea that the product no longer complies.
XP Power’s commitment

As a manufacturer, XP Power has a responsibility to complete the following activities for all products within the scope:

- Compile technical documentation
- Prepare Declarations of Conformity
- CE mark products in accordance with Article 30 of Regulation (EC) 765/2008
- Mark products for traceability
- Retain technical documentation for 10 years
- Work with national authorities to demonstrate compliance or help to ensure compliance
- Keep a register on non-conforming EEE

Any interested party may access a product’s Declaration of Conformity indicating conformance to the Directive (as well as all other applicable Directives) from the product section on the XP Power website: www.xppower.com

Signed:

Gavin Griggs
Chief Executive Officer
15th May 2021