

AirBorn Update on Prohibited Materials and RoHS

As of July 1, 2006 certain substances are prohibited from certain products sold in the European Union. The substances and their concentration levels are defined in regulations known as RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances):

- Mercury (Hg) – 0.1% or 1000 ppm
- Cadmium (Cd) – 0.01% or 100 ppm
- Lead (Pb) - 0.1% or 1000 ppm
- Chromium VI (Hexavalent Cr)- 0.1% or 1000 ppm
- PBB (Polybrominated biphenyls) - 0.1% or 1000 ppm
- PBDE (Polybrominated diphenyl ethers) - 0.1% or 1000 ppm

The restrictions apply to products listed in another regulation known as WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment), which specifies products that must comply. There are many exemptions, including military applications.

In response to the new demands on manufacturers, many electronic component suppliers are switching from tin lead (SnPb) terminations to pure tin (Sn). Since tin whiskers are a concern in high reliability electronics such as those used in the Military and Aerospace industries, many equipment manufacturers are prohibiting the use of pure tin in their products, and requiring component manufacturers like AirBorn to continue to supply product with tin lead terminations.

To satisfy conflicting requirements, AirBorn will continue to sell connectors with tin lead terminations under existing part numbers, and will sell RoHS compliant connectors under new catalog part numbers.