

RoHS Directives

Legislative Regulations Regarding the Use of Infrared Detectors Containing Lead Selenide (PbSe) or Lead Sulfide (PbS)

General Information

The purpose of the EU directive 2011/65/EU is to restrict the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic devices. It regulates the use of and introduction of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic components. RoHS stands for the restriction of hazardous substances, which refers to the restriction of use of such hazardous substances as lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyl (PBB), and polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE).

Exemption Clauses

Exemption clause 1c (Annex IV of the EU directive 2011/65/EU) currently applies to the use of lead in infrared detectors.

1. Medical technology

Exemption clause 1c states that an exemption applies until July 21, 2021, to the use of lead in infrared detectors, insofar as these detectors are used in medical devices and medical monitoring and control equipment.

2. Industry

Exemption clause 1c further states that an exemption applies until July 21, 2024, to the use of lead in infrared detectors, insofar as these detectors are used in industrial monitoring and control equipment.


3. Other applications that do not fall under items 1 or 2 above, for example consumer and automotive applications

An exemption applies until July 20, 2018, to the use of lead in infrared detectors that are neither meant for application in medical technology nor industrial monitoring and control equipment.

Future Extensions of Exemptions

We are committed to working together with the relevant industrial associations to obtain a further extension of the exemptions for medical technology and industrial safety technology beyond the years 2021 and 2024. However, an extension request cannot be filed until three years before the term ends (i.e., the beginning of 2018).

An extension request for the applications mentioned under item 3 has already been made with the EU Commission. We will keep you apprised of the decision in due course.

 Therefore, there is currently no need for action.