

## **RoHS DIRECTIVE**

### **Frequently Asked questions**

#### **1. What is RoHS?**

RoHS is a European Directive restricting the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment. It is applicable to most types of electrical or electronic equipment first placed on the market within the European Union from July 1st 2006.

#### **2. Who does this directive apply to?**

The Directive is applicable to producers of equipment for sale within the European Union and to organisations that import equipment into or export equipment to the European Union.

#### **3. How does this affect Telesoft?**

Telesoft is a European based producer of telecommunications equipment. Many component parts of our products contain one or more of these hazardous substances, typically lead, cadmium, hexavalent chromium and polybrominated biphenyls (as flame retardants). We are having to redesign our products to remove these components and introduce new products that do not contain these substances above maximum allowable concentration levels.

#### **4. I thought telecoms equipment was exempt from the Directive?**

No, it is not exempt, it is specifically included in the scope of the Directive. There are a number of applications of these substances that will still be permitted due to there being no viable alternatives currently available. Details of these exemptions are contained in the Annex to the Directive.

#### **5. Are any of these exemptions applicable to Telesoft products?**

Yes, tin/lead solder may still be used to join components together in telecoms network infrastructure equipment. Some of the electronic components in our products may still contain lead or cadmium. These products will be in full compliance to the Directive

#### **6. Can I still buy existing non-RoHS-compliant products to maintain my systems?**

Yes, the Directive does not apply to products supplied for the repair, reuse or upgrade of existing equipment. We intend to maintain a stock of goods to service our customers for as long as economically or logistically feasible.

#### **7. I am not a European customer, how does this affect me?**

Legally we will still be able to ship existing non-RoHS-compliant product outside of Europe. However some non-european countries are known to be considering implementing similar legislation and it will eventually become economically or logistically unrealistic to do this.

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