

Stainless Steels – RoHS / WEEE Directives

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment directive, commonly referred to as WEEE. This is aimed at electrical and electronic equipment manufacturers and seems to have two main aims:

1. Manufacturers will also have a responsibility for recycling products at the end of their life and there are targets manufacturers must meet.
2. To eliminate the use of environmentally sensitive substances from the manufacturing process of electrical and electronic equipment. To do this, the WEEE directive refers to the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) directive.

The main objective of the ROHS directive is to eliminate the use of four metals and 2 flame retardents - For each of these substances a maximum concentration value of 0.1% by weight in electrical and electronic equipment is permissible:

Lead	Polybrominated Diphenyls
Mercury	Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers
Cadmium	
Hexavalent Chromium	

In addition, there is an extra clause covering the exceptions which includes **Lead**, when used as an alloying element where the maximum concentration values are:

- 0.35% by weight in steels (including stainless steel)
- 0.40% by weight in aluminium
- 4.00% by weight in copper alloys

The main suppliers to TMC have confirmed that we do not have a problem in supplying material that fully conforms to the RoHS directive and as a Company we can thus make the following statement:

We can confirm that the levels of:

Lead

Cadmium

Mercury

Hexavalent Chromium

Polybrominated Biphenyl (PBB)

Polybrominated Diphenyl Ether (PBDE)

are all below the maximum permissible levels stipulated in the European Directive 2002/95/EC (Restriction of Hazardous Substances), for all materials supplied by us.

The only exception to this is where a customer orders a grade of material where the British, European or International Standard covering that grade requires the level of one or more of the substances to be in excess of the RoHS Directive. In this case, the material will contain a value of each substance in line with the requirements of the standard.

This information is based on our present knowledge and is given in good faith. However, no liability will be accepted by the Company in respect of any action taken by any third party in reliance thereon. As the products detailed may be used for a wide variety of purposes and as the Company has no control over their use; the Company specifically excludes all conditions or warranties expressed or implied by statute or otherwise as to dimensions, properties and/or fitness for any particular purpose. Any advice given by the Company to any third party is given for that party's assistance only and without liability on the part of the Company. Any contract between the Company and a customer will be subject to the Company's Conditions of Sale. The extent of the Company's liabilities to any customer is clearly set out in those Conditions; a copy of which is available on request.

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