

UK WEEE Regulation

UK transposed the WEEE directive as one of the last Member States into national law. The UK WEEE regulation – 2006 No. 3289 came into force on 2nd January 2007.

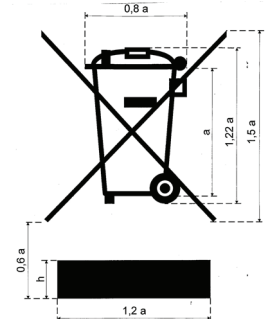


Fig 1: Crossed out wheeled bin symbol

2 January 2007 - The regulation has entered into force.

All companies who import manufacture and rebrand electrical and electronic equipment have to finance its treatment, recovery and environmentally safe disposal. **The UK importers are allowed to shift producer obligations to their foreign suppliers (e.g., China, Hong Kong...etc) who have own brand name on products.**

By 15 March 2007 – Compliance Scheme

Producers will need to join an approved producer compliance scheme to ensure that they are able to comply with the Directive.

Registration - Compliance Scheme shall register members with the appropriate authority.

By 31 March 2007 - Distributor Take back scheme

Distributors will need to join Distributor Take back scheme or arrange in-store take back for distributor obligations. Such as:

- ◆ shopping centre stores
- ◆ manufacturers making direct sales to consumers
- ◆ internet traders
- ◆ telephone and catalogue retailers
- ◆ businesses that supply products to the consumer free of charge, as part of a promotion (or 'free' gift with another non-EEE product)

Since 1 April 2007 – Marking

Required marking on product:

- ◆ Crossed-out wheeled bin symbol (Fig 1)
- ◆ Producer identification mark:
 - Brand name,
 - Trademark,
 - Company registration number; or
 - Other suitable means of identification
- ◆ Date mark(manufacturing date) or solid bar

Since 1 July 2007 – Collection, treatment, recycling, recovery, disposal

- ◆ Producer shall declare his WEEE producer registration number to distributors when selling his EEE
- ◆ Compliance Schemes and their members shall finance the cost of collection, treatment, recycling, recovery and disposal of all b2c WEEE and b2b WEEE.

Data for registration and record keeping

Producers and distributors shall keep all the records and information for at least 4 years. (Including no. of units of WEEE)

More information on WEEE are available on http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/waste/pdf/faq_wEEE.pdf

Please also note WEEE is a core competence of SGS. Don't hesitate to contact us.

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