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EPBA EUROPEAN PORTABLE BATTERY ASSOCIATION
The Authoritative Voice of the Portable Battery Industry

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Relationship between the Battery Directive and the WEEE & RoHS Directive

This document intends to clarify the relationship between the Battery Directive (2006/66/EC) and the newly published RoHS Recast Directive (2011/65/EU) and WEEE Directive (2002/96/EC).

The WEEE Directive states in its annex II that "*batteries should be removed from any separately collected WEEE*." When removed, the batteries are then covered by the battery Directive.

The RoHS Recast Directive mentions in recital 14 that*: 'This Directive should apply without prejudice to Union legislation on safety and health requirements and specific Union waste management legislation, in particular Directive 2006/66/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 September 2006 on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators […]. '*

The exclusion of batteries from the scope of RoHS Recast Directive is confirmed by the Batteries Directive 2006/66 which states in recital 29 that the '*Directive […] on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment does not apply to batteries and accumulators used in electrical and electronic equipment.'*

From this we can conclude that:

The marketing restriction, as provided for in the RoHS Recast Directive, on equipment containing e.g. mercury, lead and cadmium does not apply to batteries used with or incorporated in electrical and electronic equipment.

The WEEE Directive applies to spent batteries collected together with WEEE and requires their removal and separate collection. Once removed from WEEE, spent batteries are governed by the Battery Directive.

Batteries which are in line with the substance restrictions of art. 4 of the Battery Directive can be used in electrical and electronic equipment.

Revision of the WEEE Directive

In December 2008 the Commission proposed a revision of the WEEE Directive. We will issue another statement when this Directive is issued.

The European Portable Battery Association is the authoritative voice of the portable power industry. It supports the common interests of its members regarding portable batteries and battery chargers with European institutions and other leading international bodies to provide consumers with complete power solutions which are sustainable across their life-cycle.