

RoHS (2002/95/EC “Restriction of the use of certain Hazardous Substances in Electronic Equipment”)

&

WEEE (2002/96/EEC “Waste of Electrical & Electronic Equipment”).

UPS manufacturers acknowledge the fundamental importance of good environmental practice and responsible behavior towards the wider community. Professionals in the sector seek to control the impact of their activities on their surroundings by developing environmentally sustainable products and manufacturing processes which match or exceed the national and international legislation to which they are subject.

The members of CEMEP remain firmly committed to upholding the highest environmental standards and continue to adhere strictly to all European Union Directives.

For the purpose of protecting our natural resources the European Union’s RoHS Directive requires the reduction of six substances, including lead and cadmium, in some electrical and electronic equipment sold after July 1st, 2006. The related WEEE Directive sets requirements for the collection, treatment, recovery and recycling of such equipment.

Despite the fact that RoHS and WEEE do not directly apply to UPS*, and although UPS actually have a much lower impact on the environment than the types of equipment covered in the regulations, UPS manufacturers are voluntarily avoiding use of the substances specified in the RoHS Directive when they are certain that the operation and reliability of the UPS will not be compromised. They are not obliged to take this decision but do so in order to continue to set standards for the industry and conduct their business in an exemplary manner.

Ensuring quality, reliability and safety of UPS products is top priority for manufacturers, especially when used to protect complex and valuable mission

critical applications. UPS manufacturers are demonstrating that these essential prerequisites will not be compromised whilst, at the same time, showing their commitment to implementing practices designed to protect the environment. Thus manufacturers are taking the necessary steps to implement the traceability, collection and disposal of the vast majority of UPS installed across the industrial, service and infrastructure sectors. In addition, through application of the Batteries and Accumulators Directive, the same manufacturers already practice product marking, user guides, declaration of quantity of products on the market and recycling of batteries at the end of their life. Finally, CEMEP UPS** is preparing a Voluntary Agreement with the European commission in order to continue improving the efficiency of UPS sold on the European Market.

For further information regarding CEMEP approach to the RoHS Directive please contact your UPS supplier.

* RoHS and WEEE directives do not directly apply to UPS systems since Annexes 1A and 1B of the Directives do not mention UPS anywhere, nor do they mention any other type of energy conversion equipment. This view has been confirmed both by the European Commission (FAQ document published May 2005) and subsequently ORGALIME (guide published February 2006).

** CEMEP UPS, the European Committee of UPS Manufacturers, comprises 9 national organizations from 9 countries. The members of these national associations are:

AEES
AEG
APC - American Power Conversion
AROS
BORRI
CHLORIDE POWER PROTECTION
EATON POWER QUALITY
EMERSON NETWORK POWER
GUSTAV KLEIN
MASTERGUARD
MGE UPS SYSTEMS
POWERTRONIX
RIELLO UPS
SAFT POWER SYSTEMS
SIEL
SOCOMECSICON UPS
TECNOWARE
VOIGT & HAEFFNER