



→ June 2008

## EIATRACK News, the quarterly newsletter for the electronics sector collating the latest legislative activity as tracked by EIATRACK

### Breaking News on EIATRACK

Breaking news and regulatory alerts delivered by EIATRACK keep you informed and productive.

[June 18, 2008 | European Union | Product Take-Back](#)

Stakeholder Comments on Policy Options for Amendments to WEEE Directive Published

[June 18, 2008 | International | Transboundary Waste Shipments](#)

Basel Convention COP-9 To Consider Expanded E-Waste Work Program

[June 17, 2008 | USA | Packaging and Labeling](#)

USA Matrices of Pending and Enacted Labeling Legislation Are Now Available

[June 17, 2008 | USA | Product Take-Back](#)

USA Matrices of Pending and Enacted Recycling & Product Take Back Legislation Are Now Available

[June 17, 2008 | Argentina | Product Take-Back](#)

Argentina and WEEE Initiatives

More information is available at [www.eiatrack.org](http://www.eiatrack.org)

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## → Asia / Pacific

EIATRACK covers five regions including Asia/Pacific. Activities within Asia/Pacific, this quarter, have predominantly focused upon electronic and electrical waste.



### Australia Update

#### Australian Code of Practice for Recycling Televisions

Product Take-Back | Australia | January 28, 2008

The New South Wales (NSW) Department of Conservation and Climate Change (DECC), on behalf of the Australian Government and all State and Territory governments and together with Product Stewardship Australia Pty Ltd, has initiated the development of a national Code of Practice (CoP) for the environmentally sound recycling of televisions.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### China Update

#### Hong Kong Launches a Voluntary Fluorescent Lamp Recycling Program

Product Take-Back | China | April 3, 2008

This Alert describes the launch of the Fluorescent Lamp Recycling Program (the "Program") of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China ("Hong Kong").

Officially launched in Hong Kong on March 15, 2008, the Program provides households in Hong Kong with free collection of all used mercury-containing lamps for subsequent treatment at the Hong Kong Chemical Waste Treatment Centre.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → Asia / Pacific

### **China Considers Energy Efficiency Standards For Computer Monitors And Copiers**

Energy Efficiency | China | March 9, 2008

This Alert describes the development of China's draft national standards on minimum allowable energy efficiency values and energy efficiency grades for computer monitors and photocopiers.

The National Standard of the P.R.C. on Minimum Allowable Values of Energy Efficiency and Energy Efficiency Grades for Computer Monitors (Draft for Approval) ("Computer Monitors Standard") and the National Standard of the P.R.C. on Minimum Allowable Values of Energy Efficiency and Energy Efficiency Grades for Copy Machines (Draft for Approval) ("Copy Machines Standard") were initially notified to the World Trade Organization ("WTO") January 29, 2008.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → Asia / Pacific

### Asia / Pacific Special Reports



#### Energy Efficiency in Australia Update

Energy Efficiency | Australia | April 7, 2008

There is currently mandatory legislation related to energy efficiency for selected electrical and electronic products in Australia and further work is under way to regulate other electrical and electronic products.

Regulatory approaches include:

- mandatory approved energy labels;
- Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS).

In both cases, the approaches use a combination of legislation and Australian Standards. A complete revision of the Energy Efficiency in Australia Subject Report is available now .

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).



### Asia Specific Questions

#### China RoHS Marking Requirements

China | Feb 22, 2008

When marking packaging for the purpose of complying with the China RoHS packaging marking requirements, does the use of Chinese characters apply to packaging materials abbreviations or materials codes, in addition to the use of Chinese characters for the full name of the packaging material?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site.

## → Europe

Once again the main emphasis of activity within Europe has been associated with the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directives. Activity has been at both at an EU and national level. Not surprisingly, the majority of questions submitted to EIATRACK this quarter have been related to the RoHS or WEEE Directives. EIATRACK will continue to track legislative developments in this area to keep you up to speed.



### European Union Restricted Substances Update

#### RoHS Stakeholder Consultation on Exempted Applications Has Ended

Restricted Substances Overview | European Union | April 20, 2008

On behalf of the European Commission, German consultancy Oeko-Institut e.V. has conducted an online consultation regarding a possible amendment of the Annex of the RoHS Directive. This consultation ended on 1 April 2008. The consultant is analyzing the contributions received and is working on its final report. This report will summarize the results of the study and set forth a list of potential candidates for inclusion in the RoHS Directive. It is scheduled to be submitted to the Commission around 18 April 2008 and will be published by the end of April 2008.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#)

#### European Court of Justice Annuls Deca-BDE Exemption

Restricted Substances Overview | European Union | April 2, 2008

The European Court of Justice (ECJ) has annulled the exemption from the RoHS Directive's substance restrictions for "Deca-BDE in polymeric applications" set forth in Commission Decision 2005/717. The ECJ, however, decided that, for reasons of legal certainty, the effects of the exemption will be maintained until 30 June 2008.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#)

## → Europe



### **Public Consultation Launched on Priority Substances Candidates for Inclusion in RoHS Directive**

Restricted Substances Overview | European Union | March 13, 2008

Consultant the Oeko Institut, which is conducting a study for the European Commission in connection with the review of the RoHS Directive, has launched a public consultation on a list of 46 substances that are candidates for inclusion in RoHS Directive. Later this year, Oeko Institut will issue a report to the European Commission, which will set forth recommendations on possible additional substances to be included within the scope of the RoHS Directive.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

### **Results of Second Stakeholder Consultation on RoHS Review Published**

Restricted Substances Overview | European Union | March 4, 2008

The European Commission, DG Environment, has published the contributions to the second stakeholder consultation on the review of the RoHS Directive. The consultation was closed on February 13, 2008, and the results are now available on the Circa website.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → Europe

### **Oeko-Institut Launches Stakeholder Consultation In Connection With Review of RoHS Annex**

Restricted Substances Overview | European Union | January 29, 2008

In connection with the comprehensive review of the RoHS Directive, two German consultants, Oeko-Institut and Fraunhofer IZM, have been hired by the Commission to conduct a study on the exempted applications set forth in the RoHS Annex. As part of this study, these consultants have launched a stakeholder consultation on the exempted applications for the purpose of informing a possible amendment of the Annex.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **Norway Imposes Further Restrictions on Deca-BDE in Electronics and Products Exempt or Not Covered by RoHS**

Flame retardants compounds, Restricted Substances Overview | Norway  
| January 25, 2008

The Norwegian Environment Ministry has imposed further restrictions on the use of Deca-BDE in products. These restrictions are set forth in an amendment of Section 2-20 of the Regulation No. 922 of 1 June 2004 relating to restrictions on the use of chemicals dangerous to health and environment and other products (Product Regulation

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → Europe



### European Union Design for the Environment Update

#### Luxembourg has released draft legislation to implement EuP Directive

Design for Environment, Energy Efficiency | Luxembourg | April 21, 2008

The Luxembourg government has released draft legislation to implement the EuP Directive. The State Council recently released an opinion on the proposed law. It is very similar to the EuP Directive.

The proposal is very similar to the Directive. The government has not yet determined a target date for entry into force.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

#### March Meeting of EuP Consultation Forum

Design for Environment, Energy Efficiency | European Union | March 11, 2008

At its 6th meeting on 28 March 2008, the EuP Consultation Forum will consider Commission working documents on possible ecodesign requirements for general lighting equipment. A preparatory study on this product group was completed last year.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → Europe

### **February Meeting of EuP to Discuss Working Documents on Possible Ecodesign Requirements**

Design for Environment, Energy Efficiency | European Union | February 4, 2008

At its forthcoming meeting on 22 February 2008, the EuP Consultation Forum will consider Commission working documents on possible ecodesign requirements for external power supplies and simple top set boxes. Preparatory studies on these product groups were completed last year.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **European Union Product Take-Back Update**

#### **European Commission Launches Further Stakeholder Consultation in Connection with WEEE Review**

Product Take-Back | European Union | April 16, 2008

The European Commission has launched an on-line public consultation in connection with the on-going review of the WEEE Directive. To structure the consultation, the Commission published a document that identifies the issues on which the Commission is seeking input. Stakeholders are requested to provide opinions supported by detailed evidence on the economic, social and environmental impacts of the policy options. In particular, the Commission welcomes any additional quantitative data, studies and evaluations which would allow us to analyse the full costs and benefits of potential changes in the operation of the WEEE Directive.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → Europe

### **Commission Publishes Notes on Workshop Concerning Issues In Connection with Review of WEE**

Product Take-Back | European Union | March 24, 2008

The Commission has published notes on a workshop organised in the framework of the review of the WEEE Directive. The workshop was part of a study contract between the Commission and the United Nations University, which is conducting the study in the context of the WEEE review. The workshop was aimed at bringing together technical expert stakeholders to exchange views on the researchers' key findings thus far, and on possible options for improvement, further development, and simplification of the WEEE Directive.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **European Union Batteries Update**

#### **European Commission Clarifies Battery Directivet**

Batteries | European Union | March 11, 2008

The European Commission has announced that the Battery Directive (Directive 2006/66) will be amended to clarify that "batteries lawfully placed on the market before 26 September 2008 do not have to be withdrawn from the market or relabelled after this date". This proposed change is part of the Commission's second package of fast track actions to reduce administrative burdens for businesses.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → Europe

### **Minutes of December 2007 Meeting of Technical Adaptation Committee under Battery Directive Released**

Batteries | European Union | January 30, 2008

The European Commission released the minutes of the latest meeting of the Technical Adaptation Committee (TAC) under Directive 2006/66 on batteries and accumulators (the "Battery Directive"), which took place on 11 December 2007.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **Poland Publishes Draft Battery Legislation Transposing the EU Battery Directive**

Batteries | Poland | January 24, 2008

The Polish government has published draft legislation to transpose the EU Battery Directive (Directive 2006/66 on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators). The draft is currently being discussed with the various Polish governmental bodies involved in the legislative process.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **Ireland Publishes Draft Battery Legislation Transposing the EU Battery Directive**

Batteries | Ireland | January 24, 2008

The Irish government has published draft "Waste Management (Batteries and Accumulators) Regulations 2008." These draft regulations, which are accompanied by non-binding explanatory notes, are intended to transpose the EU Battery Directive (Directive 2006/66 on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators). Comments are invited from relevant stakeholders and other interested parties on the draft regulations, which will be finalized following consideration of submissions received.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → Europe



### UK Launches Public Consultation on Transposition of EU Battery Directive

Batteries | UK | January 16, 2008

In December 2007 and January 2008 (for Northern Ireland), the UK launched a public consultation on options for implementing the requirements of Directive 2006/66/EC on Batteries and Accumulators and Waste Batteries and Accumulators (the "Battery Directive") in the UK. Through this consultation, the UK Government and the Devolved Administrations are seeking the views of producers, distributors, collectors and recyclers of batteries and accumulators and items containing batteries and accumulators, and any other interested parties, on possible approaches (but no actual draft regulations) for implementing the directive's provisions relating to the production and sale of new batteries and accumulators, and the collection, treatment, recycling and disposal of waste batteries and accumulators. The Consultation Document is written as if the same approaches to implementation will be taken across the UK, but it will be for the Devolved Administrations to decide whether they wish to introduce their own legislation to transpose the environmental provisions in the Directive.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → Europe



### European Union Energy Efficiency Update

#### Public Consultation on Energy Labeling Show Stakeholder Support for EU Energy Labeling

Energy Efficiency, Packaging and Labeling | European Union | March 25, 2008

The European Commission published a report on an on-line stakeholder consultation on the EU's energy labeling program. The report shows that stakeholders support an extension of the current energy labeling scheme for household appliances to include other energy-using products. The Commission also published the minutes of a stakeholder workshop held on 8 February 2008, which confirms the findings of the on-line consultation, and a report on a study presenting an analysis of policy options in respect of the EU's energy labeling program.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → Europe



### European Union Restricted Substances Special Reports.

#### F-gases in Austria Update

Restricted Substances Overview | European Union | April 13, 2008

The Ordinance on Industrial Gases regulates the placing onto the market and the use of HFC and PFC as well as SF6 and their use in appliances, equipment, and products. The 2002 Ordinance has been amended by the 2007 Ordinance.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

#### European Union Subject Reports Updated

Restricted Substances Overview | European Union | February 20, 2008

As part of EIATRACK'S ongoing service, European Union Subject Reports have been updated on Packaging and Labeling.

In addition, last week two of the Subject Reports for the European Union, Product Take Back and Restricted Substances Overview were completely revised

These reports can be viewed by clicking:

- [Packaging and Labeling](#)
- [Restricted Substances Overview](#)
- [Product Take Back](#)

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → Europe

### REACH Implementation Rules and Guidelines

Restricted Substances Overview | European Union | January 17, 2008

The new European regulatory regime for chemicals, known as REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorization, and Restriction of Chemicals), entered into force on June 1, 2007. EU manufacturers and importers will have to comply with its registration requirements starting on June 1, 2008. Furthermore, many non-EU companies may have to deal with some aspects of REACH in this same time frame if they or their customers export products containing chemical substances to the European Economic Area (composed of the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway), and consequently, must consider taking actions now to comply with REACH requirements.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).



### European Union Design for the Environment Special Reports.

#### Energy using Products in Germany

Design for the Environment | European Union | April 7, 2008

Germany has implemented the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuPs) through the Eco-Design Act ("Gesetz über die umweltgerechte Gestaltung energiebetriebener Produkte"). The law was adopted on February 27, 2008 and entered into force on March 7, 2008.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → Europe



### Energy using Products in Malta

Design for the Environment | Malta | April 6, 2008

Malta has implemented the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuPs) through the Product Safety Act LN 347 of 2007 - Framework for the Setting of Ecodesign Requirements for Energy-Using Products Regulation (the "Eco-Design Act"). The law entered into force on 11 August 2007.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).



### Energy using Products in Sweden

Design for Environment | Sweden | March 24, 2008

Sweden will soon implement the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuPs). Proposal 2007/08.36 on eco-design (the "Eco-Design Law") is currently under review before the Swedish Parliament. The law is scheduled to enter into force on 1 May 2008.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).



### Energy using Products in Spain

Design for Environment | Spain | March 20, 2008

Spain has implemented the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuPs) through Royal Decree nr. 1369/2007 of 19 October 2007 regarding the setting of ecodesign requirements for energy-using products ("Eco-Design Decree"). The law was published on 23 October 2007 and entered into force on 24 October 2007.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → Europe



### Energy using Products in Italy

Design for Environment | Italy | March 19, 2008

Italy has implemented the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuP) through Legislative Decree nr 201 of 6 November 2007 ("Eco-Design Decree"). The law entered into force on 24 November 2007.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).



### Energy using Products in Estonia

Design for Environment | Estonia | March 11, 2008

Estonia has implemented the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuPs) through the Eco-Design EuP Act, amending the Energy Efficiency of Equipment Act. The law was adopted on 31 January 2008 and entered into force on 25 February 2008.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).



### Energy using Products in Latvia

Design for Environment | Latvia | March 10, 2008

Latvia has implemented the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuPs) through "Instructions about Eco-Design Requirements System for Energy-using Products" ("Instrukcija par ekodizaina prasību sistēmu enerģiju patērjošiem produktiem") (the "Eco-Design Instructions"). This instrument was published and entered into force on 31 July 2007.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → Europe



### Energy using Products in the Slovak Republics

Design for Environment | Slovakia | March 10, 2008

The Slovak Republic has implemented the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuPs) through Act nr. 665/2007 ("Eco-Design EuP Act"). The law was adopted on 11 December 2007 and entered into force on 31 December 2007.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).



### Energy using Products in Ireland

Design for Environment | Ireland | March 4, 2008

Ireland has implemented the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuPs) through the European Communities (Ecodesign Requirements for Certain Energy Using Products) Regulations 2007 (SI 557, 2007) (the "Ecodesign Regulations"). The law was adopted on 26 July 2007 and entered into force on 11 August 2007, which is the implementation date imposed by the EuP Directive. There are explanatory notes attached to the regulations, which are not part of the regulations and do not purport to be a legal interpretation.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → Europe



### Energy using Products in the UK

Design for Environment | UK | March 2, 2008

The United Kingdom (UK) has implemented the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuPs) through the Eco-Design for Energy-Using Products Regulations 2007 (SI 2007, 2037) (the "Eco-Design Regulations"). The law was adopted on 14 July 2007 and entered into force on 11 August 2007, which is the implementation date imposed by the EuP Directive. The Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has issued guidance notes providing informal and non-binding interpretation of some of the Eco-Design Regulations' requirements, including the term placing on the market.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).



### Energy using Products in The Netherlands

Design for Environment | Netherlands | March 2, 2008

The Netherlands has implemented the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuPs) through the "Act of 27 September 2007 amending the Environmental Management Act, the Act Equipment Energy Savings, and the Act on Economic Offenses" (the "Eco-Design EuP Act"). The act was adopted on 27 September 2007, and published in the Official Journal on 18 October 2007. The Eco-Design EuP Act provides that entry into force is regulated by Royal Decree. A Royal Decree of 9 October 2007 provides that the Eco-Design EuP Act enters into force 19 October 2007. An explanation attached the decree notes that the EuP Directive had to be implemented by 11 August 2007, but that "the delay does have any practical consequences, since no implementing measures have yet been adopted pursuant to the directive.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → Europe



### Energy using Products in Belgium

Design for Environment | Belgium | February 26, 2008

Belgium has implemented the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuPs) through the "Law modifying the Law of 21 December 1998 related to product norms to promote production methods and sustainable consumption and the protection of the environment and health" (the "EuP Act"). The law was adopted on 11 May 2007 and entered into force on 11 August 2007.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).



### EuP Preparatory Studies Released In Connection With EuP Directive

Design for Environment | European Union | January 15, 2008

In connection with preparing for implementation of the EuP Directive, the Commission launched so-called "preparatory studies" on a series of product groups. By the end of 2007, the Commission published reports on (i) commercial refrigerators and freezers, (ii) gas-fired, oil-fired and electric central heating (combi-) boilers, and (iii) gas-fired, oil-fired and electric water heaters. All three studies find that there is significant potential to improve the energy efficiency of these products. The studies find that the consumer use phase of the equipment is the biggest contributor to the products' overall environmental impact (in the case of boilers and water heaters, the use phase is found to account for between 80 and 99 per cent of the impact).

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → Europe



### European Union Restricted Substances Specific Questions

#### Withdrawal of ROHS Directive for Deca BDE.

European Union | Apr 24, 2008

I understand that present exemption in the ROHS Directive for Deca BDE will now be withdrawn in July 08 after the European court of justice ruled against the EU commission and the existing exemption will expire on June 30th 08. Do you have any comments on this issue?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

#### Austrian Legislation on F-Gasas

European Union | Apr 14, 2008

EIA Track currently describes Austrian legislation on F gases and refers to the 2002 Ordinance. However I understand that this Ordinance was updated on 21/06/2007 by Ordinance No 139/2007 and changes made to some of the restrictions. Could EIA track update the requirements as a matter of urgency and provide an english translation of Ordinance No 139/2007.

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

## → Europe

### SVHC in Articles.

European Union | Apr 04, 2008

We are in need of some clarification wrt the communication of information for SVHC in articles. In our situation, we are not intending to release any substances from our product, so we are skipping over the pre-registration/registration sections.

There are 2 cases then for communicating information for SVHC in articles: Article 7 - Registration and notification of substances in articles AND Article 33 Duty to communicate information on substances in articles. Our concerns are related to timelines. I understand the scenarios where communication is required. But here is where I am not too sure what is required.

In Article 7 (7) - it is indicated that: From 1 June 2011 paragraphs 2,3 and 4 of this Article shall apply 6 months after a substance is identified in accordance with Article 59(1).

So what happens before 1 June 2011? In the only RIP 3.8 Guidance Document that I have found (May 2006), it is indicating that notification of substances will be 3 1/2 years (as a minimum) after entry into force of REACH. Since the RIP 3.8 that I have found is not final, there could be discrepancies. Would we only submit our notifications by 1 June 2011 for the SVHCs that will be put on the candidate list (coming sometime in 2008-2009)?

In Article 33 we need to provide information on SVHC if present, to recipients or consumers of our articles (assuming the criteria of 0.1% w/w is met). This information is to be provided within 45 days of receipt of request. When does this become effective? Does it start right away after a substance is put on the candidate list? Is there some buffer like in Article 7? If there is no buffer, that does not give producers much time to react.

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

## → Europe

### Israel and RoHS Legislation.

European Union | Mar 05, 2008

It has been rumored that Israel has adopted RoHS legislation. Could you confirm this?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site



### Norway PoHS

Norway | Feb 14, 2008

Can you please provide an update on Norway PoHS?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site



### European Union Product Take-Back Specific Questions

#### Non-exempt Semiconductors.

European Union | Feb 24, 2008

Subject: PFOS (EU Directive 2006/122/EC)

For articles like semiconductors (when not covered by any of the exemptions) the MCV would be calculated with reference to the mass of structurally or microstructurally distinct parts that contain PFOS.

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site.

## → Europe

### Article 6/11 and Product Take-Back in EU

European Union | Feb 24, 2008

In your article in EIA Track on "Product Take-Back in EU", I did not see explicit instructions regarding the Article 6/11 requirement for manufacturers providing dismantling instructions to their dismantling partners. Would you please clarify this requirement?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

### Treatment Information for "New" EEE's

European Union | Feb 15, 2008

WEEE requires that the producer provide reuse and treatment information for each type of "new" EEE put on the market. Does "new" in this statement include product types that were already on the market when the law went into force or just new product types that were introduced to the market after the law went into force?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

### Definition of "Plastic"

European Union | Feb 15, 2008

Is there any guidance to the definition of "plastic" in the EU WEEE Annex II related to "plastic containing brominated flame retardants"? Specifically would substrate materials in an IC be considered a "plastic"? Is there guidance on the concentration of BFR which would trigger WEEE ?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

## → Europe

### Marking Obligations

European Union | Feb 15, 2008

Your answered 20 April 2005:

"If Company A imports a product manufactured and branded by Company B, both Company A and Company B are regarded as "the producer" under the WEEE Directive.....Thus, Company A is responsible for meeting the marking obligation, which should be imposed on producers." Do you mean crossed-out wheel pin mark? Is Company A responsible for marking cause they are putting the product on the market? As Company A is defined as producer by WEEE, are they also obliged to register and report?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

### Czech Republic Take-Back Definitions

European Union | Jan 02, 2008

for the packaging paste take back fee especially in czech republic they divide the hard plastic & soft plastic to record item in plastic. let me know the "difinition & range " of theres please?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

## → Europe



### European Union Battery Specific Questions

#### Battery Legislation in Russia.

European Union | Apr 03, 2008

Could you please advise the status and planned progression of battery legislation in Russia? If possible an outline of the key differences between this legislation and EU legislation would also be helpful. I cannot find any reference to this topic on the EIAtrack site. o

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

#### EU Battery Legislation.

European Union | Mar 05, 2008

I have a question on the EU Battery Legislation - EU Battery Directive 2006/66 of 6 September 2006 . If there are products already on the EU market that contain batteries and require a battery replacement, does the replacement battery have to comply with the new regulations (restrictions, labeling, etc.) as of September?t

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

## → Europe



### European Union Packaging Specific Questions

#### Marking Restrictions and Exemptions.

European Union | Mar 12, 2008

My inquiry is in reference to the crossed out Wheelie bin symbol used on products manufactured after 15-August-2005, if the date of manufacture, non-coded or coded, is displayed elsewhere on the product.

EN28601 indicates that the use of both is not excluded. Is this interpreted as: when a date of manufacture is displayed elsewhere on the product, the line under the Crossed out wheelie bin is optional?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

#### Packaging and Packaging Waste.

European Union | Feb 14, 2008

Council Directive 94/62/EC on Packaging and Packaging Waste refers to Decision 97/129/EC for numbering and abbreviations identification system to be used in indicating the nature of the packaging material used. However neither document expressly defines how the markings are to be applied. Is there another Decision or document that clarifies this? Are these markings required to be included on the packaging of products shipped to the EU as of now, or is it still being developed for implementation?

Also, have all the Member States transposed the Packaging Directive? If so, when might the summary pages for Packaging be updated?

Thanks for your assistance in understanding these requirements.

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

## → North America

Over the last quarter the North American jurisdiction has seen legal activity within California, Canada and Mexico. A webinar was specifically held on Canadian e-waste and this is now available on the website.



### USA Restricted Substances Update

#### Washington's Children's Safe Product Act

Restricted Substances Overview | USA - Washington | April 3, 2008

On April 1, 2008, Washington Governor Christine Gregoire acted to approve and partially veto the Children's Safe Products Act, Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill ("ESSHB") 2647. This legislation is the first of several proposed state bills aimed at restricting lead and other substances from children's products. As approved, the Washington Act prohibits manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers from knowingly selling, offering for sale, distributing for sale, or distributing for use in Washington state a children's product or product component containing: (a) more than 0.009 percent lead by weight (90 ppm); (b) more than 0.004 percent cadmium by weight (40 ppm); or, (c) more than 0.10 percent phthalates by weight (1000 ppm), individually or in combination. If determined to be feasible, the Washington Department of Ecology ("Department") may by rule reduce the allowable lead concentration to 0.004 percent by weight (40 ppm).

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → North America

### **EPA Settles FIFRA Enforcement Action Against a Computer Peripherals Company**

Restricted Substances Overview | USA - Federal | March 12, 2008

On March 5, 2008, EPA Region 9 announced a settlement with ATEN Technology, Inc., (ATEN) for alleged violations of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), 7 U.S.C. §§ 136 – 136y. EPA alleged that ATEN's subsidiary, IOGEAR, sold unregistered pesticides and made unproven claims about their effectiveness. The products included computer peripherals coated with an antimicrobial coating that contained an unidentified nanoparticle, possibly silver. To settle the matter, ATEN agreed to pay a \$208,000 fine and to have IOGEAR stop making antimicrobial claims about its computer peripherals.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

### **USA Matrix Of Enacted Federal and State Restricted Substances Legislation Available Now**

Restricted Substances Overview | USA - Federal | March 10, 2008

The matrix summarizing enacted legislation covering restricted substances such as brominated flame retardants and mercury has been updated. In addition to providing a summary of the legislation in question, the matrix includes information regarding the legislation's scope and effective date(s), as well as whether it contains RoHS-like provisions.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → North America

### **Expanded California RoHS Bill (vetoed in 2007) Reintroduced as Assembly Bill 218**

Restricted Substances Overview | USA - California | March 5, 2008

Assembly Bill ("AB") 218 (originally introduced as an act to amend a section of the Vehicle Code), was amended on January 31, 2008 to reintroduce a modified version of AB 48, the California RoHS bill vetoed by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2007. If passed, AB 218 would prohibit a producer from manufacturing electronic equipment for sale in California if the equipment contains a hazardous substance that would prohibit it from being sold or offered for sale in the European Union under the RoHS Directive (2002/95/EC).

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

### **Proposed California Bill Would Require Disclosure of Consumer Product Content Information**

Restricted Substances Overview | USA - California | March 5, 2008

On January 30, 2008, the California Senate passed Senate Bill 509 ("SB 509"), which aims to regulate chemical exposure risks posed by consumer products by requiring that information regarding product ingredients be made publicly available. If passed by the State Assembly and signed by the Governor, SB 509 would require that manufacturers or wholesalers of consumer products provide a listing on their website of all substances that make up more than one tenth of one percent of a product by March 31, 2009.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → North America

### **Matrix Of Enacted Federal and State Restricted Substances Legislation in the USA is Now Available**

Restricted Substances Overview | USA - Federal | January 1, 2008

We have updated the matrix summarizing enacted legislation covering restricted substances such as brominated flame retardants and mercury. In addition to providing a summary of the legislation in question, the matrix includes information regarding the legislation's scope and effective date(s), as well as whether it contains RoHS-like provisions.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **USA Product Take-Back Update**

#### **U.S.A. Postal Service Launches Pilot Program for Small Electronics Recycling**

Product Take-Back | USA - Federal | April 21, 2008

On March 17, 2008, the United States Postal Service (USPS) announced that it will expand its current recycling activities by launching an electronics recycling pilot program. Through the program, consumers can recycle small electronics and inkjet cartridges for free through the U.S. mail.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → North America

### **Virginia Passes Product Take-Back Law; West Virginia Take-Back Law Awaits Governor's Action**

Product Take-Back | USA - Virginia, West Virginia | March 30, 2008

Virginia passed a statewide electronics recycling law that requires manufacturers to implement recovery plans for collection of electronic devices. In West Virginia, an electronics recycling bill that would require manufacturers to register and pay fees passed the legislature and awaits action by the Governor.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

### **New York City Council Passes A Two-Part E-Waste Recycling Bill**

Product Take-Back | USA - New York | March 30, 2008

On March 26, 2008, the New York City Council approved two pieces of legislation addressing electronic waste and recycling in the City. The two-part legislation is the result of a compromise between the City Council and New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg over a vetoed electronic waste recycling bill, which had been overridden by the City Council.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → North America

### **California Integrated Waste Management Board Adopts Extended Producer Responsibility Framework**

Product Take-Back | USA - California | March 9, 2008

On January 23, 2008, the California Integrated Waste Management Board ("CIWMB" or "Board") adopted a revised Extended Producer Responsibility ("EPR") Framework. Extended Producer Responsibility ("EPR") is defined as the extension of the responsibility of producers, and all entities involved in the product chain, to reduce the cradle-to-cradle impacts of a product and its packaging. "The primary responsibility," the Framework states, "lies with the producer, or brand owner, who makes the design and marketing decisions." The EPR Framework will guide the discussion and development of product stewardship programs in California, with the goal of obtaining statutory changes needed to give the Board authority to establish overall program requirements and procedures.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **Ontario Electronic Stewardship Issues Draft WEEE Program Plan**

Product Take-Back | Canada - Ontario | January 24, 2008

On January 14, 2008, Ontario Electronic Stewardship ("OES") issued for comment a draft Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment ("WEEE") Program Plan that proposes to establish in Ontario an industry-led, province-wide waste diversion program for a first phase of electronic equipment. The WEEE Program Plan would meet the requirements of the Waste Diversion Act and Regulation 393/04, which designates a long list of electronic equipment that require waste diversion programs. Pursuant to the Ontario Minister of the Environment's Final Program Request Letter (issued June 11, 2007), the draft WEEE Program Plan would address designated electronic equipment in phases, with the first phase covering computers and accessories, computer monitors, printers, fax machines and televisions.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → North America

### **EPA Announces Cell Phone Recycling Education Program**

Product Take-Back | USA - Federal | January 9, 2008

On Tuesday, January 8, 2008 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a new education program to encourage recycling cell phones and accessories. The year-long campaign entitled "Recycle Your Cell Phone, It's an Easy Call" will include public service announcements emphasizing the ease and importance of cell phone recycling.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **USA Batteries Update**

#### **Ontario To Launch Battery Waste Diversion Program on July 1, 2008**

Batteries | Canada - Ontario | April 7, 2008

On July 1, 2008, Ontario will launch the first phase of a Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste ("MHSW") Program that will cover a comprehensive list of consumer products, including single-use dry cell batteries. Brand owners, first importers and franchisors ("stewards") of covered batteries will be required to collect and remit fees to Stewardship Ontario, the Industry Funding Organization responsible for implementing the Program. The MHSW Program Plan, which was developed by Stewardship Ontario and approved on February 19, 2008 by the Ontario Minister of the Environment, further defines the scope of responsible stewards and provides the basic fee-setting structure, reporting requirements, and other program details.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → North America



### USA Energy Efficiency Update

#### ENERGY STAR Specification for Set-Top Boxes Announce

Energy Efficiency | USA - Federal | April 27, 2008

On April 23, 2008, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized a new Energy Star specification for set-top boxes (STBs). According to EPA, cable, satellite and telecom STBs that meet the Version 2.0 specification will be 30% more efficient than conventional models. Game consoles and digital television adapters are excluded from the new specification.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

#### EPA Signs MOU with The Green Grid to Promote Energy Efficiency in Small Computer Rooms

Energy Efficiency | USA - Federal | April 22, 2008

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today that it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with The Green Grid, a consortium of companies dedicated to advancing energy efficiency in data centers and business computer ecosystems, to develop and promote best practices for the "greening" of computer facilities. The MOU was formalized in a signing ceremony held in Washington, D.C.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → North America

### **USA Revised ENERGY STAR Specification for Televisions Announced**

Energy Efficiency | USA - Federal | February 8, 2008

On February 4, 2007, EPA finalized its revisions to the ENERGY STAR specification for televisions. The new Version 3.0 ENERGY STAR television specification will go into effect on November 1, 2008. The specification includes requirements for television power consumption in both "On Mode" and "Standby". While the specification covers televisions, television monitors, television combination units, and component television units, it does not cover monitors with computer capability that are marketed and sold as computer monitors or dual-function television and computer monitors.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **USA Product Stewardship Update**

#### **NERC Publishes Report on Campaign to Promote EPEAT in the Northeast**

Product Stewardship Overview | USA - Federal | April 22, 2008

In 2005, the Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) received a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to promote the use of the Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) as a procurement tool in the Northeast. In March of 2008, NERC published "Green Procurement of Electronics in the New England States:

NERC's Outreach Campaign to Promote EPEAT," a report that summarizes the results of its efforts.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → North America

### **Extended Producer Responsibility Evaluation Tool Available**

Product Stewardship Overview | Canada - Federal | March 9, 2008

The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (“CCME”) Extended Producer Responsibility Task Group (“EPRTG”) has produced an evaluation tool and related guidance document to assist decision-makers across Canada in the prioritization of candidate products for an EPR program. The intent of the evaluation tool is to help decision-makers systematically examine whether EPR is a suitable program option for managing a candidate product (or a family of related products) at the end of its useful life. The tool may also be used to prioritize among a list of candidate products (or families of related products) to determine which is best suited to EPR. Among the list of initial candidate products are batteries, mercury containing products, packaging, printed paper and a wide range of electronics and electrical products, including audio video and communications equipment, computer and electronic products, leisure equipment (e.g., game-boxes), monitoring equipment and white goods.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → North America

### **EPA Launches Nanoscale Materials Stewardship Program**

Product Stewardship Overview | USA - Federal | January 30, 2008

EPA has published a Federal Register notice, announcing commencement of the Nanoscale Materials Stewardship Program (NMSP). The NMSP is a voluntary program under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) for the collection of data on “engineered nanoscale materials.” EPA is requesting participation from persons who manufacture, import, process, or use these materials for commercial purposes. EPA will implement the program over the next two years while it evaluates the need for regulatory measures under TSCA..

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

### **Matrix of Key Product Stewardship Laws and Initiatives Now Available**

Product Stewardship Overview | Canada - Federal | January 15, 2008

A matrix has been prepared that summarizes the key product stewardship laws and initiatives affecting electrical and electronic products in Canada. The matrix covers existing and proposed initiatives at the federal level and in the following provinces: Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec and Saskatchewan.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → North America



### USA Packaging and Labeling Update

#### California Air Resources Board Submits Rulemaking for Composite Wood Products

Packaging and Labeling, Restricted Substances Overview | USA - California  
| April 7, 2008

On March 7, 2008, the California Air Resources Board (“ARB”) filed a final rulemaking package aimed at reducing formaldehyde emissions from composite wood products. The Final Regulation Order sets emission standards applicable to hardwood plywood, particleboard and medium density fiberboard sold, supplied, offered for sale, or manufactured for sale in California. The regulation applies not only to composite wood manufacturers, but also to distributors, importers, fabricators, and retailers who sell composite wood products or finished goods that contain composite wood products in California. “Finished goods” are broadly defined to include any new/unused product other than a composite wood panel (including electronics with composite wood components and wooden crates or pallets used for packaging).t

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

#### Washington Bill Would Require Labeling of Lead-Containing Products

Packaging and Labeling | USA - Washington | March 5, 2008

On February 19, 2008, the Washington House of Representatives passed a bill that would require manufacturers and wholesalers of retail products containing greater than 0.04 percent lead to label products and packaging with an indication of the product’s percentage content of lead. If passed by the Senate and signed by the Governor, House Bill (“HB”) 2882 would prohibit, effective January 1, 2010, a manufacturer or wholesaler from selling a lead-containing consumer product at retail, to a retailer, or for use in Washington unless the product is labeled as required by the bill.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → North America



### USA Hazardous Waste Update

#### **New Jersey Governor Signs State's 1st Electronic Waste Recycling Act: Requires RoHS Compliant Products**

Hazardous Waste | USA - New Jersey | January 16, 2008

On January 13, 2008, New Jersey Governor John Corzine signed into law New Jersey's first electronic waste management and recycling program. In signing the Act, the Governor noted technical concerns with the legislation, and requested that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) work with the Bill's sponsors to address these issues.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### USA Restricted Substances Special Reports

#### **Florida Restricted Substance Reports Updated**

Restricted Substances Overview | USA - Florida | April 2, 2008

As part of EIATRACK's ongoing service the USA - Florida Restricted Substance Reports have been updated.

The following USA Florida Reports have been updated:

- [Restricted Substance Overview](#)
- [Lead Compounds](#)
- [Mercury Compounds](#)
- [Cadmium Compounds](#)
- [Chromium Compounds](#)

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → North America

### **USA Matrix Of Enacted Federal and State Restricted Substances Legislation**

Restricted Substances Overview | USA - Federal | March 10, 2008

The matrix summarizing enacted legislation covering restricted substances such as brominated flame retardants and mercury has been updated. In addition to providing a summary of the legislation in question, the matrix includes information regarding the legislation's scope and effective date(s), as well as whether it contains RoHS-like provisions.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

### **USA Matrix of Pending Federal and State Restricted Substances Legislation**

Restricted Substances Overview | USA - Federal | March 2, 2008

The Pending Federal and State Restricted Substances Legislation Matrix has been updated and is now available on EIATRACK. It summarizes recently introduced federal and state legislation covering restricted substances such as brominated flame retardants and mercury. The summaries include information on the proposed scope of various bills, whether the legislation contains RoHS-like provisions, and links to the actual bill text.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → North America

### California Subject Reports Updated

Restricted Substances Overview | USA - California | January 17, 2008

The EIATRACK North America team has updated all Subject Reports for the state of California.

The updated Subject Reports include:

- [Packaging and Labeling](#)
- [Product Take-Back](#)
- [Hazardous Waste](#)
- [Restricted Substances](#)
- [Asbestos](#)
- [Cadmium](#)
- [Chromium](#)
- [Flame Retardants](#)
- [Lead, and](#)
- [Mercury compounds.](#)

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

### Matrix Of Enacted Federal and State Restricted Substances Legislation in the USA

Restricted Substances Overview | USA - Federal | January 1, 2008

We have updated the matrix summarizing enacted legislation covering restricted substances such as brominated flame retardants and mercury. In addition to providing a summary of the legislation in question, the matrix includes information regarding the legislation's scope and effective date(s), as well as whether it contains RoHS-like provisions.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → North America



### USA Product Take-Back Special Reports

#### Product Take Back in Minnesota Update

Product Take-Back | USA - Minnesota | April 13, 2008

Minnesota continues to be among the most active states in mandating product take-back and recycling. In 2007, Minnesota passed the Minnesota Electronics Recycling Act, which establishes a producer-responsibility recycling program in the state. Minnesota had previously enacted a disposal ban on cathode ray tubes, which took effect in 2006. Finally, Minnesota is a member of the Midwest Regional Electronic Waste Recycling Policy Initiative, which seeks to develop a unified regional approach for managing waste electronics.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

#### Matrix of Pending Product Take Back Legislation in the USA

Product Take-Back | USA - Federal | April 2, 2008

Approximately thirty-one U.S. state legislatures are now considering recycling or product take back measures for electronic products. These measures may impose a combination of registration, product labeling, reporting, product collection and recycling, and / or financial requirements on manufacturers, retailers, collectors, or recyclers.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → North America

### **Matrix of Enacted Product Take-Back and Recycling Legislation in the USA**

Product Take-Back | USA - Federal | April 2, 2008

EIATRACK has updated its matrix summarizing recently enacted product take-back and recycling legislation. The matrix covers new laws imposing product take-back or recycling requirements, registration or reporting requirements upon retailers and manufacturers, and includes legislation restricting or banning the disposal of certain electronic waste in landfills. The matrix provides links to the enacted legislation, its effective date, a brief summary of the law's requirements or restrictions, and the scope of products covered.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

### **Nova Scotia's Electronic Products Stewardship Program**

Product Take-Back | Canada - Nova Scotia | February 28, 2008

Nova Scotia's End-of-Life ("EOL") Electronics Stewardship Program (the "Program") took effect as of February 1, 2008. The Program was approved by the Minister of Environment and Labor on October 5, 2007, and implements the Nova Scotia Solid Waste-Resource Management Regulations (the "Regulations") under Section 102 of the Nova Scotia Environment Act (see links below). Under the Program, retailers will charge consumers an Environmental Handling Fee ("EHF") on the sale of Phase I products to cover the costs incurred by brand owners in collecting, recycling, and managing Phase I EOL products. Products covered under Phase I of the Program include computers, monitors, printers, and televisions. The Program is intended to be consistent with electronics stewardship programs in other Canadian provinces.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → North America



### USA Energy Efficiency Special Reports

#### USA Matrix of Pending Federal and State Energy Efficiency Legislation

Energy Efficiency | USA - Federal | March 4, 2008

The matrix of Pending Federal and State Energy Efficiency Legislation in the United States has been updated and is now posted on the EIATRACK website.

The energy efficiency matrix summarizes legislation introduced in 2007 that remains active, as well as new legislation that has been introduced in 2008. Some proposed bills were not voted on before the state legislatures adjourned last year and have carried over to the new legislative session.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

#### USA Enacted Federal and State Energy Efficiency Legislation Matrix

Energy Efficiency | USA - Federal | February 28, 2008

The federal government and many state legislatures are considering legislation relating to the energy efficiency of electronic products, product labeling, and efficient energy practices for state and federal facilities. In response to this legislative action, the matrix of Enacted Federal and State Energy Efficiency Legislation in the United States has been updated.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → North America



### USA Packaging and Labeling Special Reports

#### Matrix of Enacted Product Labeling Legislation in the USA

Packaging and Labeling | USA - Federal | April 15, 2008

EIATRACK has updated its matrix summarizing recently enacted Product Labeling laws. The matrix covers labeling legislation dealing with a wide variety of topics including restricted substances, energy efficiency and recycling. Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Texas, and Virginia have all passed legislation since EIATRACK last posted its labeling matrix. The matrix includes a link to the enacted legislation, its effective date, a brief summary of the labeling requirements and the scope of products covered.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

#### Matrix of Pending Product Labeling Legislation in the USA

Packaging and Labeling | USA - Federal | April 15, 2008

EIATRACK has posted its new Pending Product Labeling Matrix. The matrix covers labeling legislation dealing with a wide variety of topics including restricted substances, energy efficiency and recycling. The matrix includes a link to the proposed legislation, and brief summaries of the legislation's requirements, scope and status.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → North America

### USA Product Stewardship Special Reports

#### Matrix of Key Product Stewardship Laws and Initiatives In Canada

Product Stewardship Overview | Canada - Federal | January 15, 2008

A matrix has been prepared that summarizes the key product stewardship laws and initiatives affecting electrical and electronic products in Canada. The matrix covers existing and proposed initiatives at the federal level and in the following provinces: Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec and Saskatchewan.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).



### USA Hazardous Waste Special Reports

#### USA Concept Paper for National Electronics Recycling Program

Hazardous Waste | USA - Federal | March 2, 2008

On February 22, 2008, members of the Congressional E-Waste Working Group released a concept paper proposing a framework for a federal electronics recycling law. The paper is the result of years of public hearings and consultations with stakeholders, and is intended to form the basis for federal e-waste legislation.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → North America



### USA Specific Questions

#### Take-Back Updates

Canada - Manitoba | Feb 14, 2008

The last update on the product take back laws in Manitoba, Canada was on April 2004. On June 2007, a proposal was submitted for an electrical and electronic equipment stewardship regulation under the Waste Reduction and Prevention Act. Are there any updates on that?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

#### Electronic Recycling Definitions

USA - Connecticut | Apr 04, 2008

Connecticut Public Act 189 of 2007, "An Act Concerning the Collection and Recycling of Covered Electronic Devices,"

DOES THIS ACT COVER PRINTERS, SCANNERS or PROJECTORS?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

## → North America

### **Washington State Appliance energy efficiency**

USA - Washington | Apr 04, 2008

Does the requirement under section 4 of the Washington State Appliance energy efficiency rule (WAC 194-24-060) apply to EPS?

If it does, is it the responsibility of the power supply manufacturer or the manufacturer of the product with which the EPS is bundled to provide this information?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

### **USA Federal Energy Bill**

USA - Federal | Apr 04, 2008

A federal energy bill was recently signed by president Bush on 12/19/08. This law contains requirements for external power supplies and preempts any state laws that may be in place.

1. Since this law has been signed, is it now the prevailing requirement for EPS's throughout the US?
2. Do any of the state requirements still apply regarding EPS's.
3. What are the requirements for MFG's to show compliance with this federal regulation?
4. How will this regulation be enforced, (i.e will random products from the marketplace be tested?

If you want to know the answer please visit the [Q&A section](#) of the site

## → South America

South America has seen a lot of activity this quarter primarily in Brazil, Argentina and Chile. Subject areas include Batteries, Hazardous Waste, and Product Take-back.



### South American Restricted Substances Update

#### Mercosul Focusing on Mercury

Restricted Substances Overview | Argentina, Brazil | January 14, 2008

As previously reported, Mercosul (the Common Market of the South made up of Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela) has been working on a comprehensive management program for hazardous chemical substances. Mercury continues to be a top priority at recent meetings. Although these initiatives do not specifically target e-wastes, they may lead to chemical restrictions that would directly impact EIATRACK members.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### South American Product Take-Back Update

#### E-Waste Recycling Programs in the News

Product Take-Back | Colombia | April 22, 2008

Colombia, already ahead of the curve in Latin America for its national program for cell phone take-back, continues to forge ahead at the national and even municipal level with plans to address e-wastes. First, the national environmental agency (Minambiente) initiated a pilot program to collect used computers at different supermarkets for reuse in educational programs. Separately, a draft resolution in the City of Bogotá calls for municipal collection of household e-wastes as a precursor to holding manufacturers and importers liable for its management (Draft Resolution 184/2008). Given these and other indicators, it seems only a matter of time before e-wastes are more comprehensively addressed through governmental action.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → South America

### **Proposed E-Waste Initiative for City of Buenos Aires**

Product Take-Back | Argentina | April 22, 2008

Although national e-waste initiatives are emerging at a rapid pace in Latin America, some capital cities and key states may be eclipsing their federal counterparts. Most recently, a local legislator with the City of Buenos Aires proposed a municipal Electronic Waste Law (the "E-Waste Bill" or "Bill") that would cover most electronic equipment. Although the Bill does not mention producer responsibility, the City would not be prohibited from implementing that policy as part of the Integral E-Waste Disposal Plan it would need to develop.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

### **Argentine WEEE Bills Updated**

Product Take-Back | Argentina | April 20, 2008

As reported, Argentina's Secretariat of the Environment (SAyDS) held a major national seminar on Sustainable Management of WEEE in late March of this year. A representative of the Environment Committee in the federal Senate made a presentation on the current state of several WEEE bills before the legislature. According to that presentation, only one bill, Bill 4938-D-2007 in the Chamber of Deputies, is currently viable. With this information, EIATRACK members may be better poised to focus their government relations efforts in Argentina.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → South America

### **Environmental Agency Announces National Seminar on WEEE in Argentina**

Product Take-Back | Argentina | March 19, 2008

Argentina's Secretariat of the Environment (SAyDS) has announced a major national seminar on Sustainable Management of WEEE to be held March 28, 2008 in Buenos Aires. The seminar is the agency's first formal step in developing a national strategy for WEEE management, and extended producer responsibility will be a key to that plan.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **Mexico Posts Draft National Waste Program for Comment**

Product Take-Back | Mexico | April 20, 2008

Mexico's Secretary of the Environment (SEMARNAT) recently posted a draft National Program for the Prevention and Integral Management of Wastes (the "Waste Program") for public comment. The lengthy proposal sets out concepts, strategies, action plans and timetables for achieving a broad range of objectives related to waste management. Few of its provisions specifically discuss e-wastes, however, although many of its proposals, if implemented, could affect e-waste management in Mexico.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → South America

### **Mexico - Management Plan Standards for Special Management Wastes and Urban Solid Wastes Underway**

Product Take-Back | Mexico | March 18, 2008

Mexico's environmental agency, SEMARNAT, is expected to convene a working group later this month to begin development of the long-awaited standards (Normas Oficiales Mexicanas or "NOMs") for management plans for special management wastes and urban solid wastes that are required by Mexico's 2003 General Waste Law ("Law"). EIATRACK reported on the hazardous waste management plan standard earlier this month. This report covers companion NOMs that SEMARNAT has been quietly circulating for feedback from industry. These NOMs would further define special management and urban solid wastes and set forth criteria for determining which special management and urban solid wastes are subject to management plans.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **Senate Calls for More E-Waste Measures in Chile**

Product Take-Back | Chile | March 31, 2008

Chile's Senate voted to approve a motion calling on the Minister of the Environment to step up efforts to control e-waste and promote recycling with a focus on extended producer responsibility (EPR). Chile has had fewer e-waste initiatives than other countries in Latin America at the legislative and regulatory levels. Perhaps this vote portends a change in policy toward greater control of EOL electronics.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → South America



### South American Batteries Update

#### Sao Paulo State Bill Proposes Ban on Non-Rechargeable Batteries

Batteries | Brazil | April 29, 2008

At the same time as the National Environmental Council (CONAMA) is in the final debate over revisions to its existing battery disposal rule (Resolution 257/99), a Congressman in Sao Paulo state has proposed a bill that would ban non-rechargeable batteries and require producer take-back for all rechargeable batteries (Bill 134/08 or the "Bill"). Given the importance of the Sao Paulo market, this Bill has potential to impact EIATRACK members with operations or sales into Brazil.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

#### Another Battery Bill Introduced in Brazil

Batteries | Brazil | April 21, 2008

A new battery labeling and take-back bill was presented in Brazil's Chamber of Deputies (Bill 2882/08 or the "Bill"). For now, the Bill has been annexed to the National Solid Waste Policy initiative for joint consideration. The introduction of this measure comes at a time when CONAMA is debating final modifications to its own battery resolution. Batteries, it seems, continue to be on the agenda for Brazilian legislators and regulators, alike.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → South America



### Colombia Bill Approved by Senate Proposes EPR for Batteries

Batteries, Restricted Substances Overview | Colombia | April 20, 2008

A provision in a bill before the Colombian Chamber of Deputies calls for extended producer responsibility (EPR) for all batteries and a ban on batteries containing hazardous substances (Bill 33/07 or the "Bill"). Importantly, the Senate has already approved the measure. If passed, the Ministry of the Environment (Minambiente) would still need to develop enacting regulations, but the impact could be significant on EIATRACK members.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

### Mexico Continues Focus on Batteries

Batteries | Mexico | April 3, 2008

Mexico continues to focus on batteries. As reportedly recently, the federal environmental agency (SEMARNAT) continues its work on a battery standard. And now, the Legislature, it seems, is equally preoccupied with battery issues. We review below two new bills – one calling for a battery tax and another proposing to expand the types of batteries subject to management plans – and a Congressional call for urgent agency action on battery imports. Although it is not possible to predict which initiative will move forward, clearly the issue of battery waste is at the forefront of more than one branch of government.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → South America

### **Mexican Emergency Battery NOM Update**

Batteries | Mexico | February 25, 2008

SEMARNAT, Mexico's federal environmental agency, continues to refine the Emergency Norma Oficial Mexicana ("NOM") that would impose content limits and certification requirements for batteries that become hazardous wastes at end-of-life. As earlier reported by EIATRACK, although the NOM could have been issued without public comment, SEMARNAT established a work group to provide informal comment on its provisions. SEMARNAT has recently released a version reflecting changes made as a result of this input.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

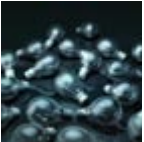
### **Senator Re-Introduces Argentine Bill on Mandatory Battery Take-Back**

Batteries | Argentina | March 30, 2008

An Argentine Senator recently re-introduced a battery take-back bill originally presented in 2006 that would hold manufacturers, importers and wholesale distributors responsible for collection and in-country disposal of all batteries, without distinguishing among components (Senate Bill 246/08 or the "Bill"). (See Link below for coverage of 2006 version.) Although it is difficult to predict whether the initiative has better chances of passage this time around, the sheer scope of the Bill makes it one to watch.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → South America



### South American Energy Efficiency Update

#### Argentina's President Proposes Ban on Incandescent Lamps

Energy Efficiency | Argentina | March 18, 2008

Earlier this month, Argentina's newly-elected President Cristina Kirchner sent a bill to Congress calling for the end of incandescent lamps for residential use in Argentina by 2010. Citing energy conservation and global warming concerns, the brief bill has received the approval of groups as disparate as Greenpeace and the Chamber of Electronic, Electromechanical and Lighting Industries (CADIEEL). Given the President's personal support for the bill, the initiative may stand a greater chance of passage.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### South American Packaging and Labeling Update

#### Strong Technological Waste Bill Presented in Sao Paulo State

Packaging and Labeling, Product Take-Back | Brazil | April 1, 2008

A Sao Paulo state Congressman recently presented a broad technological waste bill in the state legislature (PL 33/08 or the "Bill"). If passed, producers, merchants and importers would be directly responsible for the disposal of technological wastes. Because São Paulo is the biggest market in Brazil and emulated by the federal government for environmental regulations, this state initiative is worth careful review.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → South America

### **Brazil - New Packaging Bill Presented**

Packaging and Labeling, Product Take-Back | Brazil | February 15, 2008

A bill recently presented in the Chamber of Deputies would broadly hold manufacturers and distributors of packaging and packaged products responsible for their packaging wastes. Bill 2373/2007 joins other similar initiatives that have been annexed to the Omnibus Waste Bill (PL 203/1991) for consideration by the Chamber of Deputies.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **South American Hazardous Waste Update**

#### **Colombian Hazardous Waste Bill**

Hazardous Waste, Transboundary Waste Shipments | Colombia | April 21, 2008

A consolidated Senate bill that would change the existing law to ban all imports of hazardous wastes has passed the Senate and is now in committee in the Colombian Chamber of Deputies. As previously reported, the current Bill 37/06 is an amalgam of three hazardous waste bills presented in 2006 in response to a local controversy over import of spent batteries for recycling. (See Link below.) If the Bill now passes the Chamber of Deputies, it would impact how EIA members manage their end-of-life hazardous products in Colombia.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → South America

### **Draft Standards on Hazardous Waste Management Plans Released in Mexico**

Hazardous Waste | Mexico | March 2, 2008

SEMARNAT, Mexico's federal environmental agency, recently released a draft NOM (Norma Oficial Mexicana) outlining application requirements for management plans for hazardous wastes. [See Elementos y Procedimientos Para Formular y Establecer los Planes de Manejo de Residuos Peligrosos (Draft February 12, 2008)] The draft NOM, which has been under development for some time, would implement Mexico's 2003 General Waste Law (Ley General Para la Prevención y Gestión Integral de los Residuos) and its Regulation.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).



### **South American Special Reports**

#### **Energy using Products in Bulgaria**

Design for Environment | Bulgaria | April 27, 2008

Bulgaria has implemented the EU Directive on energy-using products (EuPs) by amending the Law on Technical Requirements for Products (the "TRP Law"). The Law was adopted and entered into force on 26 October 2007.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

## → International



### International Update

#### An EHS Standard on Cross-Border Trade in Second-Hand Goods

General Product Safety | International | February 26, 2008

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has approved a New Work Item Proposal (NWIP) from China and Canada for the development of an international standard addressing potential environmental and consumer health and safety issues associated with the cross-border trade in second-hand goods. As proposed, the standard would address the “bulk” second-hand trade, including the trade in refurbished goods. It would establish minimum criteria for determining which goods are fit for reuse and it would obligate the exporter to demonstrate compliance with those criteria. The proposal calls for the development of a multi-sector standard, but it identifies “electrical” goods as an example of the type of products commonly traded on the second-hand market. The proposal does not specify whether the standard would address issues specific to the trade in used electronic equipment in addition to those issues that are perceived as being common to the trade of second-hand goods generally.

For more detailed information please read the [Regulatory Alert](#).

## → International



### International Special Reports

#### **Thai Government Is Preparing Voluntary Electronics Standard Including a RoHS-Conformity Marking Program**

Restricted Substances Overview | International | April 20, 2008

The Thai Industrial Standard Institute (“TISI”) is drafting a standard regarding the use of certain hazardous substances in certain categories of electronic products (the “Thai RoHS Standard”). The draft Thai RoHS Standard is expected to be promulgated in the next few months.

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

#### **Matrix of Take-Back and Chemicals Initiatives in Latin America**

Product Take-Back | International | January 5, 2008

The EIATRACK Latin America team has prepared a matrix to summarize key take-back and chemicals initiatives affecting electric and electronic products in the region.

The matrix covers initiatives in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica and MERCOSUR (the Common Market of the South).

For more detailed information please read the [Special Report](#).

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