

Geberit's WEEE & RoHS Compliance

Geberit AG, Jona (Switzerland), November 2005

Background

Governments, customers and the general public have shown a stronger interest in a cleaner disposal of used electrical and electronic equipment (electric equipment). Therefore, the EU has launched two new directives which, on the one hand, regulate the recovery and recycling of such equipment (WEEE, Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment, 2002/96/EC) and, on the other hand, largely ban hazardous substances such as lead, cadmium, mercury, chromium VI and certain flame retardants (RoHS, Restriction of Hazardous Substances, 2002/95/EC).

The WEEE will be implemented in the EU countries in 2005 and 2006. The RoHS has to be implemented in these regions as from 1 July 2006, at the latest. These directives relate to all electrical tools of Geberit. However, Geberit goes beyond these requirements and voluntarily applies these regulations to all other electrical equipment. Thus Geberit emphasizes its role as an environmental pioneer in the sanitary industry and supports sustainability.

Product design

Geberit has been including environmental aspects in product development for many years. Its long-standing experience in the area of product life cycle assessments helps to identify weaknesses. Similarly important is the easy separation of the various components in connection with disposal, which has to be taken into account in the product design at an early stage.

All Geberit products referred to above in the area of application will comply with the RoHS by 1 July 2006, at the latest.

Marking



All electrical tools will be marked with the crossed out wheellie bin and the black bar pursuant to the WEEE. This marking means that this equipment must not be disposed with regular household waste. The equipment should be returned to Geberit free of charge for appropriate disposal.

Customer information

The customer will be notified of these directives via various channels that may differ from one country to the other. The communication in all countries will be via the internet, where this compliance statement has also been filed.

Reporting

Geberit will make available the information and volume details required by the relevant authorities in conformity with the WEEE.

Recovery of waste equipment

Geberit will recover and recycle or cleanly dispose of any waste equipment free of charge. Electronic appliances sold prior to 13 August 2005 will also be recovered free of charge. The disposal channels may differ from one country to the other. Details with respect to the collection points are available from the Geberit distribution company in charge or via the internet page of the relevant country.

Disposal

Geberit will ensure that the equipment is cleanly recycled and disposed of in accordance with national regulations.

Area of application

These Compliance Rules apply to all EU countries as well as to Switzerland and Norway and cover the following products:

- all electrical tools (pressing tools, PE processing tools) → mandatory
- all shower toilets (without ceramics, including adaptable shower toilet seats) → voluntary
- all electronic faucets and flush actuators (urinal flush systems, WC flush systems) → voluntary