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Interpretation of EU RoHS Directive

The European Union RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances) Directive (EU) 2011/65 governs the use of certain Hazardous Substances in electrical and electronic equipment. The regulation, issued in 2002, initially restricted the use of six hazardous substances including lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls and polybrominated diphenyl ethers in new electrical and electronic equipment products coming onto the market after July 1, 2006. On June 4, 2015, the EU Official Gazette published a new Amendment Directive (EU) 2015/863, which officially added DEHP, BBP, DBP, and DIBP to the Appendix II Restricted Substance List. To date, there are ten mandatory controlled substances in Appendix II. The specific limits are as follows:

- Lead (Pb) <0.1%
- Hexavalent chromium (Cr VI) <0.1%
- Butyl phthalate (BBP) <0.1%
- Mercury (Hg) <0.1%
- Polybrominated biphenyls (PBBS) <0.1%
- Dibutyl phthalate (DBP) <0.1%
- Cadmium (Cd) <0.01%
- Polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE) <0.1%
- Diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP) <0.1%
- Bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) <0.1%

After the issuance of this revised directive, all EU member states were required to apply the directive to their own regulations and implement them before December 31, 2016. And from July 22, 2019, all electrical and electronic products entering the European Union (except medical and monitoring equipment) also had to meet this restriction. Medical equipment (including extracorporeal medical equipment) and monitoring equipment (including industrial monitoring equipment) were included in the scope of control from July 22, 2021.

It is worth noting that toy products, which are already under the control of phthalene in Article 51 of Annex XVII of REACH, will not be subject to the control of DEHP, BBP, and DBP in this directive.

Trust Chem can provide clients with pigments that comply with all RoHS obligations and assist companies in meeting the latest RoHS requirements.