

LEDs and the WEEE Regulations

What you need to know about the WEEE Regulations

As of May 2009, LEDs and OLEDs have been classed by the Environment Agency as "in scope" for the WEEE regulations. They will also be specifically named in the scope of the recast of the WEEE Directive, due to be finalised in 2011/12.

As a result, companies importing or producing LED and OLED lamps need to comply with the WEEE regulations now.

What are the WEEE Regulations?

Implemented in 2007, the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations set about increasing the reuse and recycling of waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) by reducing the amount of WEEE going to landfill.

The regulations aim to improve the environmental performance of businesses that manufacture, supply, use, recycle and recover EEE. You may have obligations under the WEEE Regulations if you are a business with electrical or electronic equipment to dispose of, or if you sell electrical or electronic equipment.

The WEEE directive covers a wide range of electrical and electronic products including TVs, DVD and video recorders, IT equipment, medical devices and monitoring and control instruments

The Regulations affect all parties in the electronics industry in one way or another but the primary groups are producers who become responsible for financing the

end-of-life treatment of their products, and distributors who become responsible in some cases for taking-back end-of-life products when new products are purchased.

How Recolight can help

Recolight membership ensures that LED and OLED Producers are compliant with the law, and that they can also offer free recycling to their customers.

Any company that manufactures or Imports LEDs or OLEDs can get in touch with Recolight and speak to us about recycling options, and how to prepare for the future.

Recolight was established as a specialist lamp producer compliance scheme under the WEEE Regulations. The regulations affect many parties in the supply chain (see our website for more information and guidance on the Regulations).

Recolight was founded by Philips Lighting, GE lighting, Osram, and Havells Sylvania, and has established an infrastructure for the collection of WEEE lamps as well as financing efficient, reliable and environmentally sound solutions for lamp recycling. Our 80 members also include a number of smaller niche and specialist lamp manufacturers including LED importers



Recolight has funded the recycling of 100 million lamps to date, preventing over a third of a tonne of mercury from entering landfill



We believe in keeping things simple...

Recolight is the leading compliance scheme for WEEE lamps in the UK. To date, we have funded the recycling of more than 100 million lamps. During this same time, the lighting industry has been responsible for collecting and recycling more items of WEEE than any other type.

In 2010, lamps accounted for just 2% of the tonnage of business electrical equipment placed on the market in the UK, but accounted for over 22% of the business WEEE collected, according to Environment Agency figures.

This is an enormous achievement demonstrating the lighting industry's commitment to recycling and is testament to the successful mechanisms put in place by Recolight to make recycling as simple and efficient as possible.

Recolight is financially sound and as a "not for profit" organisation any excess funds are retained for future years' recycling. Recolight is operated by the lighting industry, on behalf of the lighting industry.

LED Recycling

LEDs and OLEDs are dependent on a number of raw materials to create light, including rare earths, platinoids and other materials which are extracted from mines around the world. Limits imposed on the exports of these

raw materials mean that in the coming years, recycling of LED lamps will be vital to maintain access to the materials needed for LED lamp production. Recolight can provide a dedicated LED lamp collection container where necessary, and will ensure that the LED lamps deposited are recycled.

Enforcing the WEEE Regulations

The Environment Agency for England and Wales, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency for Scotland and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (the enforcement agencies) are responsible for ensuring that all eligible producers and suppliers register with a compliance scheme such as Recolight. The compliance scheme is then responsible for the producers' obligations and for getting data from its members on EEE put onto the market and for reporting on WEEE collected and recycled.



Joining Recolight

To join our compliance scheme, please email us at ask@recolight.co.uk phone us on **0845 601 7749**

To learn more about Recolight visit www.recolight.co.uk

Recolight

About Us

Established by the lighting industry in 2005, in accordance with the WEEE Regulations, Recolight is a not for profit company that takes on its members' responsibilities to collect and recycle their lamps at end-of-life. To date, Recolight funded the collection and recycling of approximately 100 million Gas Discharge Lamps, preventing over a third of a tonne of mercury from entering landfill.

Recolight provides a range of free services to businesses to make lamp recycling as simple and efficient as possible. Recolight is actively looking to expand its collection network which organisations can join for free. Approximately 250 of the existing Recolight collection points are open, providing collection to anyone.

Recolight is unique in the WEEE industry, in undertaking recycling far in excess of its legal obligations. This reflects the organisation's (and its members') genuine commitment to maximising the recycling of lamps.

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