

Norgren GmbH
Postfach 1120
D-46515 Alpen
Bruckstraße 93
D-46519 Alpen
Tel: + 49 2802 49-0
Fax: + 49 2802 49-365

www.imi-precision.com

IMI Precision and REACH / RoHS / WEEE / ELV: For Health and the Environment

IMI Precision Engineering (PE) is aware of its responsibility towards health and the environment and is committed to observing European environmental directives. These primarily target the following objectives:

- a) lowering the pollutant content in end products, and
- b) reducing or preventing waste from electrical and electronic equipment, as well as reusing these by recycling them.

REACH

(**REACH** = Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals) EU Directive 1907/2006 has been in force since 01 June 2007. Its main purpose is to ensure a high level of protection for human health and the environment against hazards stemming from chemical substances. To contribute to environmental and health protection, all products we bring onto the market are made from materials that are consistent with this directive.

**Breakthrough
Engineering**

RoHS

(**RoHS** = Restriction of the use of certain Hazardous Substances in electrical and electronic equipment)

EU Directive 2015/863/EU (RoHS III) has been in force since 22 July 2019. It sets limitations on the use of specific hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment and is amendment of Directive 2011/65/EU. According to Annex II of 2011/65/EU and amended 2015/863/EU the following substances are subject to limitation (per-centage by weight in parentheses): lead (0.1%), mercury (0.1%), cadmium (0.01 %), hexavalent chromium (0.1%), polybrominated biphenyls (PBB) (0.1 %), polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE) (0.1%),

added in 2015:

Bis(2-Ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP): (0.1%), Benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP): (0.1%), Dibutyl phthalate (DBP): (0.1%), Diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP): (0.1%)

WEEE

(**WEEE** = Waste of Electrical and Electronic Equipment)

EU Directive 2012/19/EU (WEEE II), dated 24 July 2012, replaces Directive 2002/96/EC from 13 February 2003. Its aims primarily to reduce and prevent waste from electrical and electronic equipment and to reuse and recycle such equipment. By expanding manufacturer responsibilities, WEEE II is intended to prevent and reduce electronic scrap and ensure that it is disposed of in an environmentally sound manner.

2000/53/EC Directive on End-of-Life Vehicles (ELV)

EU Directive 2000/53/EC has been in force since 21 October 2000 and was last revised on 01 June 2017. It forms a basis of uniform European conditions for handling end-of-life vehicles and establishes measures that primarily aim to prevent, re-use and recycle waste from vehicles. Each year, between 8 and 9

Incorporating

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 **THOMPSON VALVES**

million tons of waste from end-of-life vehicles are generated within the European Community. This waste must be properly disposed of.

German Electronic and Electrical Equipment Act (ElektroG)

Both directives (RoHS and WEEE) have been enshrined in German national law through the amended Electronic and Electrical Equipment Act (ElektroG) of 20 October 2015.

German Ordinance on the Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (ElektroStoffV)

The German ElektroStoffV Ordinance of 19 April 2013, including its most recent amendment from 04 May 2017, regulates the implementation of the European Parliament's EU Directive 2015/863/EU.

Our commitment benefits our customers

We make every effort to fulfil the EU directives, even if they do not directly apply to every field of application for our products. If you own equipment, systems or machines fitted with products from IMI Precision that are subject to the directives mentioned above, then IMI Precision, working in close partnership with our suppliers, can support you worldwide with obtaining the necessary information.

RoHS-compliant products from IMI Precision

Because we are considered a 'distributor' under these directives, we guarantee that all products which we declare to be 'RoHS-compliant' adhere to EU Directive 2015/863/EU. We also continually adapt our existing product lines, regardless of whether they are required to be 'RoHS-compliant'. During this ongoing adaptation process, it is possible that product documentation may not yet contain any reference to 'RoHS compliance'. Contact your local sales representatives for information.

PFAS – Perfluorinated alkyl substances

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are emerging substances of concern. Many of these substances have been identified as hazardous as well as being persistent and mobile in the environment making them more widely known as "forever chemicals." As such, many governments are taking actions to restrict the use of these substances.

On 14 October 2020, the EU Commission adopted its Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability. In this strategy, the Commission presents a comprehensive package of measures to regulate the sub-class of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The declared aim is to restrict the use of PFAS and the placing on the market of chemical products and articles containing PFAS in the EU.

Also, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the U.S. is currently preparing a similar rule under the Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) which focuses on the restriction of PFAS in the U.S. market as well as reporting obligations.

IMI supports the aim of the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability to improve the protection of human health and the environment against risks from chemicals.

On 7 February 2023, the details of the proposed restriction of around 10 000 PFAS are now available via the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). ECHA's scientific committees will now start evaluating the proposal in terms of the risks to people and the environment, and the impacts on society.

Due to their unique property profile, PFAS are used today in a wide range of mainly industrial products and in manufacturing processes, often because of their high thermal and chemical resistance and the fact that they have a very low surface tension and are thus water and oil repellent, as well as abrasion and wear resistant at the same time.

IMI does not manufacture substances from the PFAS group. We take the necessary steps to identify the presence of PFAS in our supply chain to ensure compliance with all existing and upcoming legal requirements. Some PFAS have already been restricted in the past by various regulations such as e.g., the REACH Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 and POP Regulation (EU) 2019/1021. However, for most chemicals belonging to the PFAS group there is currently no information obligation along the supply chain. Nonetheless, considering the proposed universal restriction and the wide range of possible PFAS applications we are conducting steps in analysing the often highly complex international supply chains and preparing for the next steps to adequately assess the precise impact of the restriction per substance and product.

In our products PFAS substances are usually in:

1. O-rings from FKM, FPM, Viton fluoropolymers
2. PTFE-teflon coating
3. Lubricants, usually from Perfluoropolyether (PFPE) or with added PTFE

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Christopher S PATIENT, CEng MIMechE
Engineering Director - IA EMEA