



July 25, 2006

Measurement Technology NW: RoHS Compliance

In January 2003, the European Parliament and The Council of the European Union created RoHS Directive 2002/95/EC to restrict the use of six hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment, for the protection of human health and the environment. This Directive, commonly known as RoHS, went into effect throughout the European Union on July 1, 2006.

Article 2 of the RoHS Directive specifies the categories of electronic devices it applies to. Based on the defined uses, Measurement Technology NW thermal test instruments and line control devices fall into Category 9: "Monitoring and Control Instruments" as defined in Annex 1A of the 2002/96/EC Directive. According to Article 2 of the 2002/95/EC Directive, electronic devices in Category 9 are currently excluded from the RoHS requirements.



Category 9: Monitoring and control instruments

- Smoke detector
- Heating regulators
- Thermostats
- Measuring, weighting, or adjusting appliances for household or as laboratory equipment
- Other monitoring and control instruments used in industrial installations (e.g., in control panels).

The RoHS Directive defines the scope of restrictions in Article 2 as follows:

1. Without prejudice to Article 6, this Directive shall apply to electrical and electronic equipment falling under the categories 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 10 set out in Annex IA to Directive No 2002/96/EC (WEEE) and to electric light bulbs, and luminaires in households. Consequently, all Category 9 products are excluded from restrictions under the scope of the RoHS directive.

Because MTNW products are classified as "Monitoring and Control Instruments" (Category 9), they are currently excluded from the regulations. However, MTNW recognizes the environmental value of the RoHS directive and has been reducing the use of components containing these hazardous substances.

Measurement Technology NW will work with our customers and partners during this transition to make sure their needs are met. In most cases, our OEM customers will not require RoHS compliant products, as installations using MTNW thermal testing instruments or line control devices typically fall under the "Large Scale Machine" Category 8 exclusion, defined as *"...a machine or system, consisting of a combination of equipment, systems or products, each of which is designed to be used in industry only, permanently fixed and installed by professionals at a given place in an industrial machine or in an industrial building to perform a specific task"*.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding RoHS compliance and our products do not hesitate to call us at (206) 634-1308 or email us at thermal@mtnw-usa.com (thermal test instruments) or at ici@mtnw-usa.com (line control devices).