

## Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive (2012/19/EU)

### Full title

Directive 2012/19/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE).

### Pictures



### Previous edition

Directive 2002/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 January 2003 on limit of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment equipment.

### Scope

(Article 1 and Article 2(1), Annex I and Annex III).

This Directive establishes measures for the protection of the environment and human rights health by preventing or limiting the negative consequences of production and the management of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), to reduce the general consequences of resource use and to improve efficiency of its use, in accordance with Articles 1 and 4 of Directive 2008/98/EC, that contributes to sustainable development.

This Directive applies to electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) as follows:

(a) from 13 August 2012 to 14 August 2018 (transitional period), subject to paragraph 3, on EEE falling within the categories listed in Annex I:

1. Major household appliances
  2. Small household appliances
  3. IT and telecommunications equipment
  4. Consumer appliances and photovoltaic panels
  5. Lighting equipment
  6. Electrical and electronic tools (except large, stationary industrial tools installations)
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7. Toys, recreational and sports equipment
8. Medical devices (excluding all implanted and infected products)
9. Measuring and control instruments
10. Vending machines

Annex II contains an indicative list of EEE falling within the categories listed in Annex I;

(b) from 15 August 2018, subject to paragraphs 3 and 4, in all EEE. All EEE is classified in the categories listed in Annex III:

1. Heat or cold exchanging equipment
2. Screens, monitors and equipment with screens that have an area of more than 100 cm<sup>2</sup>
3. Lamps
4. Large equipment (with an external dimension of more than 50 cm), including, but not limited to: household appliances; IT and telecommunications equipment; consumer equipment; light fixtures; sound reproduction equipment or images, musical equipment; electric and electronic tools; toys, relaxation and sports equipment;

Medical instruments; measuring and control instruments; vending machines; equipment for generating electric currents. This category does not include devices that fall under categories 1 to 3.

5. Small equipment (without external dimensions of more than 50 cm), including, but not limited to: household appliances; consumer equipment; light fixtures; equipment for reproducing sound or images, musical equipment; electric and electronic tools; toys, recreational and sports equipment; medical tools; measuring and control instruments; vending machines; equipment for it generating electric currents. This category does not include devices that fall under categories 1 to 3 and 6.

6. Small IT and telecommunications equipment (without external dimensions exceeding 50 cm)

Annex IV contains a non-exhaustive list of EEE listed in Annex III categories falls (open scope).

In this directive, 'electrical and electronic equipment' or 'EEE' means: Devices that rely on electric currents or electromagnetic fields to get to and devices for generating, transmitting and measuring those currents and fields and which are intended for use with a voltage of up to 1,000 volts alternating current and 1,500 volts for direct current.

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## Exceptions

(Article 2(3) and (4))

This Directive does not apply to the EEE listed below:

- (a) equipment necessary for the protection of the essential interests of the safety of Member States, including weapons, ammunition and war materials for specifically military purposes;
- b) equipment specifically designed and installed to form part of others equipment which is excluded from or does not fall within the scope of this Directive, which can only fulfill its function if it is part of the latter equipment;
- c) incandescent lamps.

Furthermore, as of August 15, 2018, this Directive does not apply to the EEE listed below:

- (a) equipment designed to be launched into space;
- b) large, stationary industrial equipment;
- c) large, fixed installations, excluding equipment that is not specifically designed and installed as part of such installations;
- d) means of transport for persons or goods, with the exception of electric two-wheelers without type approval;
- (e) non-road mobile machinery intended for professional use only have been made available;
- f) equipment specially designed for research and development purposes only and which is only made available by a company to another company;
- g) medical devices and medical devices for in vitro diagnostics, when these devices are expected to be infectious and active before the end of their life implantable medical devices.

## Symbol

(Article 14(2e), Article 14(4) and Annex IX)

Under these regulations, the EEE equipment is provided with the following symbol:



## Examples

(Article 2(3) and (4))

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## Annex II: Indicative list of EEE falling within the categories of Annex I

### 1. Major household appliances

- Large cooling appliances
  - Refrigerators
  - Freezers
  - Other large appliances for refrigeration, preservation and storage of food
- Washing machines
- Tumble dryers
- Dishwashers
- Cooking appliances
  - Electric stoves
  - Electric hobs
  - Microwaves
  - Other large appliances for the preparation and other handling of food
- Electric heating equipment
  - Electric radiators
  - Other large appliances for heating rooms, beds and seating furniture
- Electric fans
- Air conditioners
- Other ventilation, exhaust and air conditioning equipment

### 2. Small household appliances

- Vacuum cleaners
  - Roller sweepers
  - Other cleaning equipment
  - Apparatus for sewing, knitting and weaving and other textile operations
  - Irons and other appliances for ironing, mangling and other care of clothing
  - Toasters
  - Deep fryers
  - Coffee grinders, coffee makers and equipment for opening or airtight closing of containers or packaging
  - Electric knives
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- Hair clippers, hairdryers, electric toothbrushes, shavers, massages other body care devices
- Clocks, other timepieces and equipment for measuring, indicating or recording of time
- Scales

### 3. IT and telecommunications equipment

- Centralized data processing:

- Mainframes
- Minicomputers
- Printing units

- Personal computer use:

- Personal computers (including processor, mouse, screen and keyboard)
  - Laptops (including processor, mouse, screen and keyboard)
  - Notebook computers
  - Notepad computers
  - Printers
  - Copiers
  - Electric and electronic typewriters
  - Pocket and desk calculators
  - and other products and equipment for electronic collection, storage, process, presenting or communicating information
  - User terminals and systems
  - Fax machines
  - Telex machines
  - Phones
  - Coin and card telephones
  - Cordless telephones
  - Cellular telephones
  - Answering machines
  - Other products or equipment for the transmission of telecommunications sound, images or other information
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#### 4. Consumer appliances and photovoltaic panels

- Radio equipment
- Television sets
- Video cameras
- Video recorders
- Hi-Fi recorders
- Sound amplifiers
- Musical instruments
- Other products or equipment for recording or reproducing sound or images, including signals or other techniques for the distribution of images and sounds telecommunications
- Photovoltaic panels

#### 5. Lighting equipment

- Luminaires for fluorescent lamps, except household luminaires
- Fluorescent lamps (fluorescent tubes)
- Compact fluorescent lamps
- High-intensity discharge lamps, including high-pressure sodium lamps and metal halide lamps
- Low-pressure sodium lamps
- Other lighting or equipment for distributing or controlling light, excepted light bulbs

#### 6. Electrical and electronic tools (except large, stationary industrial installations)

- Drilling
- Sawing
- Sewing machines
- Equipment for turning, milling, sanding, grinding, sawing, cutting, cutting off, drilling, making holes, punching, folding, bending or similar operations of wood, metal and other material
- Tools for riveting, nailing or screwing, or removing rivets, nails and screws, or similar uses
- Tools for welding, soldering or similar use
- Equipment for atomizing, spreading, dispersing or otherwise treating of liquids or gases
- Tools for mowing and other gardening activities

#### 7. Toys, recreational and sports equipment

- Electric trains and car racing tracks
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- Handheld video game consoles
- Video games
- Cycling, diving, running, rowing computers and the like
- Sports equipment with electrical or electronic components
- Slot machines

#### 8. Medical devices (excluding all implanted and infected products)

- Radiotherapy equipment
- Cardiological equipment
- Dialysis equipment
- Ventilators
- Nuclear medicine equipment
- Laboratory equipment for in vitro diagnostics
- Analysis equipment
- Freezers
- Fertility testing equipment
- Other devices for the detection, prevention, monitoring, treatment and mitigation of diseases, injuries or disabilities

#### 9. Measuring and control equipment

- Smoke detectors
- Heating controls
- Thermostats
- Measuring, weighing and adjustment devices for household or laboratory use
- Other measuring and control equipment, for industrial installations (e.g. in control panels)

#### 10. Vending machines

- Hot drinks vending machines
  - Vending machines for hot/cold bottles/cans
  - Vending machines for solid food products
  - ATMs
  - All vending machines for all types of products
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Annex IV: Non-exhaustive list of EEE falling within the categories listed in Annex III

1) Heat or cold exchanging equipment

Refrigerators, freezers, equipment for the automatic delivery of cold products, air conditioning equipment, dehumidifiers, heat pumps, oil radiators and other heat or cold exchanging equipment in which liquids other than water is used for heat or cold exchange.

2) Screens, monitors and equipment with screens that have an area of more than 100 cm<sup>2</sup>

Screens, television sets, LCD photo frames, monitors, laptops, notebooks.

3) Lamps

Fluorescent lamps (fluorescent tubes), compact fluorescent lamps, fluorescent lamps, high-intensity discharge lamps, including high-pressure sodium lamps and metal halide lamps, low pressure sodium lamps, LEDs.

4) Major appliances

Washing machines, tumble dryers, dishwashers, cooking appliances, electric stoves, electric hobs, light fixtures, sound reproduction equipment or images, music equipment (except pipe organs installed in churches), apparatus for knitting and weaving, large mainframes, large printers, copiers, large gaming machines, major medical tools, large measuring and control equipment, large products or ATMs, photovoltaic panels.

5) Small appliances

Vacuum cleaners, floor sweepers, sewing equipment, light fixtures, microwave ovens, ventilation equipment, irons, toasters, electric knives, kettles, clocks and other timepieces, electric shavers, scales, hair and body care appliances, calculators, radios, video cameras, video recorders, hi-fi equipment, musical instruments, equipment for reproducing sound or images, electrical and electronic toys, sports equipment, bicycle, diving, running, rowing computers and the like, smoke detectors, heating controls, thermostats, small electrical and electronic tools, small medical devices, small measuring and control equipment, small product vending machines, small appliances with integrated photovoltaic panels.

6) Small IT and telecommunications equipment (without external dimensions exceeding 50 cm)

Mobile phones, GPS, pocket calculators, routers, personal computers, printers, phones.

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