



1 July 2008

Status of Deca-BDE exemption from the RoHS Directive

As of today, Deca-BDE can no longer be used in electronics and electrical applications. This follows a European Court of Justice ruling from 1 April 2008.

BSEF firmly believes that Deca-BDE meets the RoHS^[1] exemption criteria and that it should either be exempted or removed from this Directive. BSEF is in dialogue with the European commission to evaluate how the resulting contradiction between the RoHS Directive and the EU's risk assessment on Deca-BDE can be addressed.

The EU has not identified any significant risks in any of Deca-BDE applications, so there is no basis to restrict Deca-BDE under the RoHS Directive.

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^[1] Directive on the restriction of hazardous substances in electronics and electrical equipment (2002/95/EC)

BSEF is the international organisation of the bromine chemical industry, whose remit is to inform stakeholders and commission science on brominated chemicals such as flame retardants.