



**Subject: Deca-BDE included in European Commission stakeholder consultation  
for an exemption from the RoHS Directive - deadline 5 July 2004**

Dear Sir, dear Madam,

Please find below information on the European Commission consultation aiming at getting scientific & market inputs from interested parties concerning an exemption of Deca-BDE -among other items- from the RoHS Directive.

We intend to respond favourably to the Commission consultation, and we hope that you will also be interested in writing to the Commission to indicate your support for an exemption for Deca-BDE in view of the need to take account of its emerging EU risk assessment. Such an exemption is important for all interested parties as it would ensure that science remains the basis for laws to regulate all substances.

Deca-BDE's EU scientific risk assessment was concluded on 26 May 2004 and no risk was identified from the use of this flame retardant for the environment or health. We expect the Risk Assessment report together with stakeholder consultation responses to exempt Deca-BDE from restrictions under the RoHS Directive.

At a time when the demands on the electrical & electronic industry to respect the needs of the environment and of fire safety have never been higher, it is important that a flame retardant chemical be scientifically assessed by regulators. This is what has happened in the case of Deca-BDE.

The consultation document can be found on the Commission website at [http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/waste/pdf\\_comments/weee\\_consultation.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/waste/pdf_comments/weee_consultation.pdf).

Hoping that you will be interested to reply to this consultation to support an exemption of Deca-BDE from the RoHS Directive, we remain at your disposal to provide you with any further assistance.

With kind regards,

Lawrie McLaren  
BSEF - Programme Director