

# make it – sell it – recycle it

## How to comply with the WEEE Regulations

For importers, rebranders and manufacturers of electrical & electronic equipment

If you import, rebrand or manufacture electrical or electronic equipment in the UK you are likely to have responsibilities under the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations.

The regulations apply to household appliances, IT and telecommunications equipment, lighting, tools, toys, leisure and sports equipment, monitoring and control instruments, medical devices and automatic dispensers. There are some exclusions but you must check your responsibilities so you don't break the law.

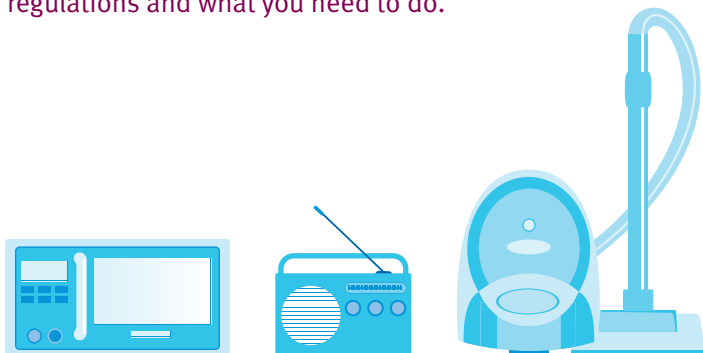
## What you need to do

### 1 Find out if you have to comply with the WEEE Regulations

If your product requires electricity for its main purpose then it's likely to be covered by the regulations. Examples include photocopiers, computers, televisions, power tools and fluorescent lamps. There are a few exclusions, so check whether these may apply to you.

Any company in the UK that imports, rebrands or manufactures electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) is referred to as a 'producer' in the WEEE Regulations.

Our web page: [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/weee](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/weee) will help you decide if your product is covered by the regulations and what you need to do.



### 2 Register with a compliance scheme

If you import, rebrand or manufacture electrical or electronic equipment in the UK you should have been registered with an approved producer compliance scheme since March 2007. If you haven't, you are breaking the law and need to register now. We can't advise you which scheme to join. If you delay, you could be fined up to £5,000 in a magistrate's court or receive an unlimited fine in a Crown court.

To register with a compliance scheme you will need to:

- pay a registration fee
- tell the scheme how much electrical and electronic equipment you place on the UK market each calendar year
- tell the scheme whether you supplied the equipment for household or non-household (eg business) use
- you will then receive a producer registration number that you will need to give to anyone who distributes or sells your equipment.

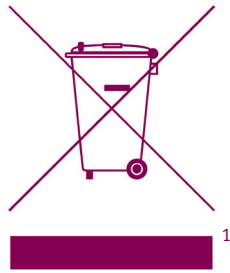
You can view a list of approved compliance schemes on our website: [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/weee](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/weee)

### 3 Work out what will happen to the products once they have come to the end of their life

You will need to finance the cost of treating and recovering the types of products you import, rebrand or manufacture. There are separate collection and funding arrangements for non-household equipment. Your compliance scheme should be able to advise you. The Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR) has produced guidance which explains your responsibilities. See their website: [www.berr.gov.uk/innovation/sustainability/weee/page30269.html](http://www.berr.gov.uk/innovation/sustainability/weee/page30269.html)

### 4 Mark your products

You should be marking all new electrical products you place on the market with the crossed out wheeled bin symbol and a producer identification mark. This has been a requirement in the UK since 1 April 2007.



### What is an importer, rebrander or manufacturer?

You are an importer if you bring (or arrange for others to bring) goods into the country on a professional basis. This may be to sell them on to other people or to use them in your own business.

You are a rebrander if you buy finished products from a manufacturer and then add your own brand name to them before putting them on the market.

You are a manufacturer if you make or assemble products to be sold under your own brand name.

### Why we need the regulations

Every year the UK throws away around 2 million tonnes of WEEE. It is one of the fastest growing waste streams in the UK and the EU. The EU adopted the WEEE Directive to deal with this waste by making sure more waste is collected for treatment and recovery and less goes to landfill.

The WEEE Regulations were introduced in January 2007 in the UK. They affect everyone who uses, sells, treats or disposes of WEEE as well as those that produce EEE. The guidance from BERR explains the obligations of those involved with WEEE.

## Where to find out more

BERR has detailed information on its website: [www.berr.gov.uk/innovation/sustainability/weee/page30269.html](http://www.berr.gov.uk/innovation/sustainability/weee/page30269.html)

Our website has further information on the regulations and how they apply to you: [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/weee](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/weee)

There is information for small and medium size businesses at: [www.netregs.gov.uk](http://www.netregs.gov.uk)

You can phone us on: **08708 506 506**

Or email us at: [enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk)

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