

Global Industry Practices Committee (GIPC)



Member Advisory: RoHS Exemption Renewals and Extensions

The GIPC Environmental Compliance Subject Matter Expert Group would like to inform you of recent developments regarding RoHS exemptions that may affect product categories across the electronics industry. These updates include renewals, modifications, and the introduction of more specific sub-entries, impacting compliance timelines for manufacturers, distributors, and customers.

What's New / Extended

- Exemption 7(a) – High-Melting-Temperature Solders: Renewed and extended until June 30, 2027, allowing continued use under defined conditions. Link: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu>
- Sub-Entries for 7(a): More specific categories have been introduced (e.g., 7(a)-I through 7(a)-VII). Some of these sub-entries are set to expire by December 31, 2027. Link: https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/waste-and-recycling/rohs-directive_en
- Exemptions for Lead in Metal Alloys (6(a), 6(b), 6(c)): Covering steel, aluminum, and copper alloys, these exemptions have been modified or renewed for certain product categories, with deadlines extending into mid-2027. Link: https://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/rohs_eee/index_en.htm
- Transition / Phase-Out Periods: Several exemptions previously expected to expire or be revoked are now granted transition timelines of 12 to 18 months after the corresponding delegated directive becomes effective. Link: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/oj/direct-access.html>

Quick Reference – Exemption Status

Exemption	Description	Status	Expiry-Transition Date	Notes
7(a)	High-melting-temperature solders	Renewed	June 30, 2027	Applies broadly to solders above 85% Pb
7(a)-I to 7(a)-VII	Sub-categories of 7(a)	Introduced	Dec 31, 2027	More specific applications defined
6(a)	Lead in steel	Renewed / Modified	Mid-2027	Applies to certain categories only
6(b)	Lead in aluminum	Renewed / Modified	Mid-2027	Applies to certain categories only
6(c)	Lead in copper alloys	Renewed / Modified	Mid-2027	Applies to certain categories only
Other expiring exemptions	Various	Transition granted	12–18 months after directive effective date	Grace period allows supply chain adjustment

What Do These Developments Mean for You?

- Compliance planning – Review current product portfolios and material declarations to confirm which exemptions apply.
- Supplier engagement – Ensure updated declarations are requested from suppliers, particularly where sub-entries apply.
- Timeline adjustments – Take note of staggered deadlines (June 2027, December 2027, or transitional phase-outs).

Early preparation is recommended to avoid last-minute risks.

Our Support

ECIA GIPC working groups will continue to:

- Monitor and communicate regulatory updates – Providing timely summaries of RoHS and related environmental compliance changes.
- Engage with members – To provide assistance answering questions and identifying where to find information.

Next Steps

Please review your current product ranges for potential impact and engage with our compliance team for support. For questions or assistance, contact: Christine Wolnik CWolnik@ecianow.org

Disclaimer: This communication is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Companies should evaluate the applicability of exemptions to their specific products and markets.