



2 November 2017

His Excellency Abdullah Al Maeeni  
Director General

Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology  
ESMA

## UAE Regulation to Control Hazardous Materials in Electrical and Electronic Devices (UAE RoHS)<sup>1</sup>

Your Excellency Mr. Al Maeeni,

We, the undersigning associations, are writing to your Excellency with regard to UAE RoHS becoming effective on 1 January 2018.

Participants in the undersigning associations support the objective of contributing to the protection of human health and the environment, and remain committed to continued compliance with applicable legal requirements globally and in the UAE. We also support global efforts to simplify legislation, remove red tape and lower costs without compromising policy objectives, contributing to a clear, stable and predictable global and local regulatory framework supportive of growth and jobs.

We have undertaken a critical review of the UAE RoHS legislation and Implementing Guidelines<sup>2</sup>, and identified key areas of concern requiring further consideration, including, but not limited, to:

**Rapidly growing uncertainty regarding UAE RoHS product conformity assessment application/registration and evaluation/verification procedures, fees and other costs departing from global practices<sup>3</sup>.**

We believe the requirements are very complex and burdensome, depart from global practices, and if implemented, will lead to a very bureaucratic legislative framework. Moreover, there is significant risk of stakeholders at large, including but not limited to businesses, not being able to understand and accurately follow the legislation, and devoting significant resources to try to apply the new rules, rather than continuing research, development and innovation, growing businesses and creating jobs. Furthermore, RoHS legislation affects industry and other stakeholders at large worldwide, and the amount of time, resources and work required to clarify and effectively disseminate any new requirements globally, including but not limited to any new procedures, should not be underestimated.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.esma.gov.ae/en-us/ESMA/Pages/Laws-and-Legislations.aspx> (UAE regulation to control hazardous materials in electrical and electronic devices; Decision No 10/2017; Date of publication in official gazette 27/04/2017; Date of implementation 28/04/2017).

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.esma.gov.ae/en-us/Announcements/Pages/Restriction-on-Hazardous-Substances.aspx> (UAE RoHS Implementing Guidelines released 1 October 2017).

<sup>3</sup> e.g. (non-exhaustive) UAE RoHS Implementing Guidelines: Section D. Conformity Assessment and Annex B: RoHS Declaration of Conformity.

We therefore request a minimum 12-month delay in effectively implementing UAE RoHS product conformity assessment application/registration and evaluation/verification procedures, and would welcome the opportunity to meet with your Excellency at your earliest convenience, allowing jointly thoroughly reviewing these considerations with experts and achieving a solution that ensures the necessary protection for human health and the environment, while maintaining and enhancing competitiveness.

The UAE is leading the region in terms of economic growth and job creation, due to the unrivalled investment friendly environment, and fostering innovation under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, Vice President and Prime Minister. While recognizing the importance of conformity assessment, we would be grateful for your support to ensure that technical regulations and their conformity procedures do not create unnecessary obstacles to international trade. Your support in avoiding conformity assessments which are stricter than necessary will ensure that these procedures can be undertaken as expeditiously as possible and facilitate trade. Therefore, given the rapidly growing uncertainty and concerns at stake, we hope that you will grant our request by extending the effective implementation of UAE RoHS product conformity assessment application/registration and evaluation/verification procedures, and accept our request to meet with your Excellency, to discuss this matter.

We would welcome the opportunity to work with you and answer any questions you may have. We trust that you will appreciate the importance of this matter to our members who want to ensure continued compliance with applicable legal requirements globally when this law becomes effective in just a few months.

Yours sincerely,

## ABOUT AMCHAM EU

AmCham EU speaks for American companies committed to Europe on trade, investment and competitiveness issues. It aims to ensure a growth-orientated business and investment climate in Europe. AmCham EU facilitates the resolution of transatlantic issues that impact business and plays a role in creating better understanding of EU and US positions on business matters.

## ABOUT CIAJ

Mission of Communications and Information network Association of Japan (CIAJ). With the cooperation of member companies, CIAJ is committed to the healthy development of info-communication network industries through the promotion of info-communication technologies (ICT), and contributes to the realization of more enriched lives in Japan as well as the global community by supporting wide-spread and advanced uses of information in socio-economic and cultural activities.

## ABOUT DIGITALEUROPE

DIGITALEUROPE represents the digital technology industry in Europe. Our members include some of the world's largest IT, telecoms and consumer electronics companies and national associations from every part of Europe. DIGITALEUROPE wants European businesses and citizens to benefit fully from digital technologies and for Europe to grow, attract and sustain the world's best digital technology companies. DIGITALEUROPE ensures industry participation in the development and implementation of EU policies. DIGITALEUROPE's members include 61 corporate members and 37 national trade associations from across Europe. Our website provides further information on our recent news and activities: <http://www.digitaleurope.org>

## ABOUT ECIA

The Electronic Components Industry Association (ECIA) is made up of the leading electronic component manufacturers, their manufacturer representatives and authorized distributors. ECIA members share a common goal of promoting and improving the business environment for the authorized sale of electronic components to the end customer. Comprised of a broad array of leaders and professionals representing all phases of the electronics components supply chain, ECIA is where business optimization, product authentication and industry advocacy come together. ECIA members develop industry guidelines and technical standards, as well as generating critical business intelligence. For more information, visit [www.ecianow.org](http://www.ecianow.org) or call 678-393-9990.

## ABOUT EPCIA

The Mission of EPCIA is to represent and promote the common interests of the Passive Components Manufacturers active in Europe to ensure an open and transparent market for Passive Components in Europe as part of the global market place. Passive Components Manufacturers play a key role in the development of the electronics industry and more globally in the development of the e-society in Europe and the rest of the world. Every new function, every new semiconductor, generates new requirements in volume and performance for passive components. Supported by several large companies and a great number of SMEs (small and medium sized enterprises), the passive component industry has accumulated a considerable competence and know-how over the years. Our website provides further information on our recent news and activities: <http://www.eusemiconductors.eu/epcia/epcia-home>

### DIGITALEUROPE

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## ABOUT ESIA

The European Semiconductor Industry Association (ESIA) is the voice of the Semiconductor Industry in Europe. Its mission is to represent and promote the common interests of the Europe-based semiconductor industry towards the European Institutions and stakeholders in order to ensure a sustainable business environment and foster its global competitiveness. As a provider of key enabling technologies the industry creates innovative solutions for industrial development, contributing to economic growth and responding to major societal challenges. Being ranked as the most R&D intensive sector by the European Commission, the European Semiconductor ecosystem supports approx. 200.000 jobs directly and up to 1.000.000 induced jobs in systems, applications and services in Europe. Overall, micro- and nano-electronics enable the generation of at least 10% of GDP in Europe and the world.

## ABOUT IPC

IPC ([www.IPC.org](http://www.IPC.org)) is a global industry association based in Bannockburn, Ill., dedicated to the competitive excellence and financial success of its 3,600 member companies which represent all facets of the electronics industry, including design, printed board manufacturing, electronics assembly and test. As a member-driven organization and leading source for industry standards, training, market research and public policy advocacy, IPC supports programs to meet the needs of an estimated \$2 trillion global electronics industry. IPC maintains additional offices in Taos, N.M.; Washington, D.C.; Stockholm, Sweden; Moscow, Russia; Bangalore and New Delhi, India; Bangkok, Thailand; and Qingdao, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Chengdu, Suzhou and Beijing, China.

## ABOUT ITI

ITI is the global voice of the tech sector. We advocate for public policies that advance innovation, open markets, and enable the transformational economic, societal, and commercial opportunities that our companies are creating. Our members represent the entire spectrum of technology: from internet companies, to hardware and networking equipment manufacturers, to software developers. ITI's diverse membership and expert staff provide a broad perspective and intelligent insight in confronting the implications and opportunities of policy activities around the world. Visit <http://www.itic.org/> to learn more. Follow us on Twitter for the latest ITI news [@ITI\\_TechTweets](https://twitter.com/ITI_TechTweets).

## ABOUT JAIMA

The Japan Analytical Instruments Manufacturers' Association (JAIMA) is a sole industry association of Analytical Instruments in Japan, which established under the Japanese law. Member of JAIMA are more than 200 leading companies in Japan. JAIMA is to contribute to the development of the Japanese economy and the cultural lives of citizens in Japan through efforts to improve and advance technologies related to analytical instruments and the analytical instruments industry for the purpose of the advancement of science & technology.

## ABOUT JBCE

Founded in 1999, the Japan Business Council in Europe (JBCE) is a leading European organisation representing the interests of over 80 multinational companies of Japanese parentage active in Europe. Our members operate across a wide range of sectors, including information and communication technology, electronics, chemicals, automotive, machinery, wholesale trade, precision instruments, pharmaceutical, railway, textiles and glass products. In 2013, our

member companies together represented global sales of € 1.4 trillion. Website: <http://www.jbce.org> E-mail: [info@jbce.org](mailto:info@jbce.org)

## ABOUT JBMIA

Japan Business Machine and Information System Industries Association (JBMIA) is the industry organization which aims to contribute the development of the Japanese economy and the improvement of the office environment through the comprehensive development of the Japanese business machine and information system industries and rationalization thereof.

## ABOUT JEITA

The objective of the Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA) is to promote the healthy manufacturing, international trade and consumption of electronics products and components in order to contribute to the overall development of the electronics and information technology (IT) industries, and thereby further Japan's economic development and cultural prosperity.

## ABOUT JEMA

The Japan Electrical Manufacturers' Association (JEMA) The Japan Electrical Manufacturers' Association (JEMA) consists of major Japanese companies in the electrical industry including: power & industrial systems, home appliances and related industries. The products handled by JEMA cover a wide spectrum; from boilers and turbines for power generation to home electrical appliances. Membership of 291 companies, <http://www.jema-net.or.jp/English/>

## ABOUT JEMIMA

Japan Electric Measuring Instruments Manufacturers' Association (JEMIMA) has been an active forum for measuring instruments manufacturers since its establishment in 1948. It has 85 companies as regular members and 29 companies & 7 organizations as supporting members. JEMIMA members contribute to a wide variety of industries by supplying products as "Mother Tools of the industry" for R&D design, and manufacturing. JEMIMA activities are becoming more and more global, since most of the issues our industry is facing are also global. By actively working on these issues, we help our members to meet the challenge and promote the development of the industry worldwide. To achieve these goals, JEMIMA take "Globalization & promotion of International activities" to be one of the focal activities.

## ABOUT KEA

KEA, initially Electronic Industries Association of Korea (EIAK), was established in 1976. The Government of Korea (Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy) designated EIAK as electronics industry promotion organization in the same year. EIAK merged with the Korea Electric Appliances Manufacturing Association in 1980 and changed its name to Korea Electronics Association in 1996. KEA represents numerous Korean electronics companies and its main purpose is to promote the electronics and IT industries of Korea, to revitalize policy recommendations aimed at

establishing the dynamic industrial environments and to contribute to the healthy growth and development of the national economy.

## ABOUT NECA

NIPPON ELECTRIC CONTROL EQUIPMENT INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION (NECA) was established in 1964 and promoting the growth of the electric control equipment fields such as Relays, Switches, Sensors, PLC/FA System Equipment and others, Safety Control Equipment. NECA members 38 corporate members and shipping amount of relevant products were 644.3 billion Yen in FY2015. Our website provides further information on our recent news and activities: <https://www.neca.or.jp/en/>

## ABOUT NEMA

The National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) represents 350 US-based electrical, medical imaging, and radiation therapy manufacturers at the forefront of electrical safety, reliability, resilience, efficiency, and energy security. Our combined industries account for more than 400,000 American jobs and more than 7,000 facilities across the United States. Domestic production exceeds \$114 billion per year and exports top \$50 billion.

## ABOUT TIE

Toy Industries of Europe (TIE) Toy Industries of Europe (TIE) is the trade association for the European toy industry. The toy industry is highly international and is one of the most dynamic business sectors in Europe. Over 99% of the sector is composed of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), which have less than 50 employees. Members of TIE include corporate companies as well as national associations from Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the UK. [www.tietoy.org](http://www.tietoy.org)