



# LightingEurope Statement on Mercury Lamps Allowed After 2020, based on the UN Minamata Convention

## Introduction

Some lamps in the scope of the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) Minamata Convention on Mercury will no longer be allowed to be manufactured, imported and exported after 2020.<sup>1</sup>

In summary:

- The Convention introduces mercury limits for certain discharge lamps on a global level. This does not result in a ban on fluorescent lamps nor a ban for those lamps that are not mentioned in the Annex to the Convention.
- All lamps fulfilling the mercury limits of EU RoHS Directive 2011/65/EU, the EU Mercury Regulation 2017/852 and the EU PIC Regulation 649/2012 will not be banned.
- The Convention does not prohibit special purpose lamps.
- All other lamps not mentioned below are allowed to be manufactured, imported, and exported beyond 2020.

For more details, please consult the [LightingEurope FAQ](#) on the Minamata Convention.

## Lamp types no longer allowed to be manufactured, imported and exported after 2020

**In accordance with Part 1 of Annex A of the Minamata Convention after 2020, the manufacture, import and export of the following types shall not be allowed<sup>2</sup>:**

- Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) for general lighting purposes that are ≤ 30 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner.
- Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes:
  - a) triband phosphor < 60 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp;
  - b) halophosphate phosphor ≤ 40 watts with a mercury content exceeding 10 mg per lamp.

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<sup>1</sup> Minamata Convention: <http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Convention/Text/tabid/3426/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> Products which are exempted in the Convention: (a) Products essential for civil protection and military uses; (b) Products for research, calibration of instrumentation, for use as reference standard; (c) Where no feasible mercury-free alternative for replacement is available, switches and relays, cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays, and measuring devices; d) Products used in traditional or religious practices; and (e) Vaccines containing thiomersal as preservatives.

- High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes.
- Mercury in cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays:
  - a) short length ( $\leq 500$  mm) with mercury content exceeding 3.5mg per lamp;
  - b) medium length ( $> 500$  mm and  $\leq 1500$  mm) with mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp;
  - c) long length ( $> 1500$  mm) with mercury content exceeding 13 mg per lamp.

## Contact

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For further information on this topic, please contact Roumiana Santos, Senior Policy Officer ([roumiana.santos@lightingeurope.org](mailto:roumiana.santos@lightingeurope.org)).

LightingEurope is the voice of the lighting industry, based in Brussels and representing 33 companies and national associations. Together these members account for over 1,000 European companies, a majority of which are small or medium-sized. They represent a total European workforce of over 100,000 people and an annual turnover exceeding 20 billion euro. LightingEurope is committed to promoting efficient lighting that benefits human comfort, safety and well-being, and the environment. LightingEurope advocates a positive business and regulatory environment to foster fair competition and growth for the European lighting industry. More information is available at [www.lightingeurope.org](http://www.lightingeurope.org).