



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 2020.¹

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 allowed²:

- 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.

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

² 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 (≤ 500 mm) with mercury content exceeding 3.5mg per lamp;
 - b) medium length (> 500 mm and ≤ 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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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.