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MIIT Release Plans for Standard Revision on China RoHS

On 21 Jan 2016, the Chinese Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) published its final revised version of the Administrative Measures for the Restriction of the Use of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Products (also known as *China RoHS 2*). The new regulation came into force on 1 July 2016.

On March 14, 2022, the Electrical and Electronic Product Pollution Control Standardization Group of MIIT and other bodies held an online conference and released plans for standards revision and other measures for China RoHS.

The main plans are to:

1. Add four phthalates (DEHP, BBP, DBP and DIBP) to the hazardous substance list of China RoHS
2. Develop specific requirements for hazardous substance marking, and
3. Update the test methods for hazardous substances.

It is anticipated that the addition of the 4 new phthalates will be approved, which will bring the total regulated substances to 10, mirroring EU's RoHS 2 directive.

According to the Fifth Electronics Research Institute of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, the overall schedule is as follows:

- Conduct research on companies — through April 2022
- Develop and revise standards — through September 2022
- Announce related measures — through December 2022

In relation to standards, the following things are also planned:

- Mandatory national standards for restrictions on the use of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic products will be designed in early 2022 and issued in three to five years.
- For test method standards, GB/T 26125 "Electrical and electronic products – Determination of six regulated substances (lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls, polybrominated diphenyl ethers)" will be replaced with GB/T 39560 "Determination of certain substances in electrical and electronic products", which corresponds to the EU's IEC 62321 series

Phthalates are widely used as plasticizers in the manufacturing of electrical and electronic products. The disposal and recycling of these products may release them into the environment and as a result impact the ecological environment and human health. For this reason, the use of those harmful substances in electrical and electronic products need to be reduced or avoided.



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