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European Directives WEEE 2002/96/EC and ROHS 2002/95/EC

The ROHS directive (Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical Equipment) covers the same scope as the WEEE directive (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment). Batteries and accumulators do not fall into any of the ten categories listed by the WEEE directive (a good summary of these categories may be referenced on www.weeenetwork.com). Therefore we consider that our appropriate response is to declare that our range of products are outside the scope of each of these directives.

The European directive that is directly relevant to batteries and accumulators is Council directive 2006/66/EC, which specifies that batteries containing mercury, lead or cadmium should be collected separately when spent and should carry an identifying label. (An introductory summary may be accessed on a DTI web-site www.dti.gov.uk/sustainability).

Power-Sonic Sealed Lead Acid and Nickel Cadmium batteries conform to Commission Directive 93/86/EEC, which requires that the product is labelled with the WEEE symbol (a crossed-out wheelie bin and the appropriate chemical symbol). This is designed to inform the end user to separate batteries from other waste.

Under existing legislation (currently under review) there is presently no specific framework for battery collection and recycling. In the absence of this, Power-Sonic Europe's policy is to accept returns of our product at the customer's expense (or even competitor product for existing customers who experience difficulty with their former supplier). To ensure proper recycling, we then route the batteries through Environment Agency procedures using approved waste carriers and licensed sites.

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