

FEATURED PRODUCT

**CLEAR-VU™
Window Butt
Connectors**

- CLEAR-VU™ tubing provides optimal clarity for visual inspection
- Adhesive-lined tubing ensures a waterproof seal
- Wire gauge imprint simplifies wire size identification
- RoHS Compliant



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PAST ISSUES

What is RoHS Compliance?

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Many may already associate RoHS compliance with being lead free. But if a product is RoHS compliant, it is actually free from more than just lead.

Originating in Europe under European Union law, as Directive 2002/95/EC, RoHS stands for **R**estriction of **H**azardous **S**ubstances and restricts the use of 6 specific hazardous materials and 4 phthalates frequently found in electrical and electronic products.

1. Lead (Pb)
2. Mercury (Hg)
3. Cadmium (Cd)
4. Hexavalent Chromium (Cr VI)
5. Polybrominated Biphenyls (PBB)
6. 4 different Types of Phthalates
 - Bis(2-Ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP)
 - Benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP)
 - Dibutyl phthalate (DBP)
 - Diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP)

Why is it important?

RoHS compliance can have an affect on everyone from the manufacturer, to the buyer and seller, all the way down the chain to the end user.

From a commerce perspective, anyone doing business with those under European Law will be required to meet RoHS compliance with goods being exported, and visa versa, goods being imported from Europe will also meet these requirements.

From a manufacturing or end user perspective, at certain levels, these properties governed by RoHS compliance, can be dangerous in terms of occupational exposure and are hazardous to the environment. To protect those who may come in contact with these materials, they are regulated through RoHS compliance for safety reasons.

Lead (Pb), which is one of these restricted hazardous materials, has been known to be found in solder. In direct relation to the trucking industry, as an example, solder is used to bond wires together when making repairs to the electrical system, whether it is with components that contain solder, such as wire terminals, or actual solder slugs. Over a period of months or even years, if handled improperly, lead can build up in the body. Even small amounts can cause serious health issues and at very high levels can lead to death.



How to tell if a product is RoHS Compliant or Lead Free



Products that are RoHS Compliant will have a certificate or supporting documentation that can be traced back to the original manufacturer to show that the product is RoHS compliant. Packaging, and even the product itself may be labeled as RoHS compliant, but is not a requirement.

Products that are lead free may be labeled or marked as 'Pb Free' or 'Lead Free', but again it is not a requirement.



Keep in mind that just because a product is labeled as 'Lead or Pb Free' it does not necessarily mean that it meets RoHS compliance. It must also be free of the other 5 hazardous materials and 4 phthalates in accordance with RoHS standards.



Have technical questions? Get the latest tips from a skilled Phillips engineer!
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- RoHS stands for **R**estriction of **H**azardous **S**ubstances.
- Although RoHS is a standard set forth by law within Europe, it is becoming more prevalent in the US.
- Just because a product is labeled as 'Lead or Pb Free' does not necessarily mean that it meets RoHS compliance. It must also be free of the other 5 hazardous materials and 4 phthalates in accordance with RoHS standards.

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