Microsoft Product Compliance with Global Environmental Requirements

Microsoft is dedicated to being a good global citizen with products and solutions that help improve people’s lives around the world. To that end, Microsoft implements strict policies to ensure that our products and packaging fully comply with global environmental requirements. Recognizing that our direct actions are only part of the process, Microsoft also requires our global manufacturing partners to follow applicable environmental laws and regulations and implement sound environmental practices with respect to their facilities and the products they manufacture. We are pleased to confirm that Microsoft products are designed and manufactured to comply with the following international laws and regulations as enacted and revised:

Global RoHS Compliance

All Microsoft’s hardware¹ products are designed to comply with the applicable restricted substance requirements of the European Union’s Restriction of the use of certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (RoHS) Directive (2002/95/EC) as amended by the EU RoHS Recast Directive (2015/863/EU). The EU RoHS Recast requires self-declaration to RoHS restrictions through the Declaration of Conformity (DoC) process and CE marking.

By designing Microsoft hardware products to meet EU RoHS requirements, Microsoft also achieves compliance with other countries’ laws that duplicate the RoHS Directive’s substance restrictions for a similar scope of covered products, including, but not limited to, China Management Methods for Controlling Pollution by Electronic Information Products, Korea Enforcement Ordinance on the Recycling of Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Vehicles Act 2007, Taiwan RoHS Regulation, Japan’s Law for Promotion of Effective Utilization of Resources, and California’s Electronic Waste Recycling Act.

EU REACH Compliance

The European Union’s Regulation on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) (2006/1907/EC) entered into force on June 1, 2007. Pursuant to Article 33, Microsoft communicates information regarding Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) that are contained in articles in a concentration above 0.1% by weight to its customers and to consumers, upon request. Microsoft actively monitors the European Chemical Agency’s SVHC candidate list and restricts SVHCs that have been added to the ECHA authorization list. The Microsoft REACH declaration can be found on our Materials and Substances web page.

¹ Please note: EU RoHS, by definition, does not apply to Microsoft software products, packaging or optical media (CD-ROMs and DVDs).
Battery Compliance

Microsoft complies with global battery marking, substance restriction, consumer information, transportation and recycling requirements, including those mandated by the EU Battery Directive (2018/849/EU). To properly dispose of batteries, please consult Microsoft's battery recycling website. Battery transportation requirements for Microsoft products containing lithium ion batteries can be found Battery Compliance web page.

Packaging Compliance

Microsoft designs its hardware and software packaging to meet global environmental requirements. Microsoft suppliers are required to comply with applicable laws and regulations, including compliance with the European Union’s Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste (1994/62/EC), as amended by 2018/852/EU and CEN packaging standards (EN 13427:2005) as well as US Toxics in Packaging legislation. Packaging for Microsoft products meet heavy metal restrictions, labelling, and essential requirements regarding packaging optimization, manufacturing, composition, recovery and reuse. Microsoft’s commitment to the continual improvement of environmentally sound packaging was initiated when Microsoft signed the Australia Packaging Covenant (APC) on March 25, 2009 and reinforced when Microsoft signed the APC Declaration form in August 2010. Microsoft has since expanded the APC to all global packaging programs.

Hardware Recycling

Microsoft is in compliance with global electronics recycling laws, including the EU Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment (WEEE) Directive (2002/96/EC) and the WEEE Recast (2012/19/EU) and other electronics recycling laws in Asia, Latin America and North America. Compliance includes fulfilling recycling obligations and meeting information and labeling requirements for covered Microsoft products. To identify a location to properly dispose of Microsoft hardware devices, please consult the recycling website.


Enacted in August 2008, the US Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA) limits the use of lead and certain phthalates in children's products. Although our devices are not classified as children's products, Microsoft designs its Xbox video game consoles and Xbox accessories to meet CPSIA substance restriction requirements due to their potential use by children. For the same reason, Microsoft also designs its Xbox video game consoles and Xbox accessories to meet the substance requirements of the EU Toy Safety Directive (2009/48/EC).
California Proposition 65

Proposition 65, the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, was enacted as a ballot initiative in November 1986. The Proposition was intended by its authors to protect California citizens and the State's drinking water sources from chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm, and to inform citizens about exposures to such chemicals. None of Microsoft’s products contain chemicals in amounts that would trigger a notification or warning under California Proposition 65.

Ozone Depleting Substances (ODSs)

The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer ("Montreal Protocol") restricts the use of ODSs in manufacturing and Sections 4681 and 4682 of the US Internal Revenue Code (IRC) impose an excise tax on the sale or use of ODSs by the manufacturer, producer or importer of the ODS and the sale or use in the United States by the importer of any “imported taxable products.” Any importation of ODSs or products containing ODSs are subject to the IRS excise tax. To ensure compliance, Microsoft has established a strong company policy on prohibiting the use of ODSs in the manufacture of Microsoft devices. Microsoft uses a three-pronged approach to achieve this policy: a restricted substance specification that all suppliers must meet, an annual supplier disclosure covering ODSs, and supplier audits that validate supplier ODS claims.

Energy Efficiency

Microsoft devices comply with the EU Ecodesign Directive for Energy Related Products (2009/125/EC), and its implementing regulations when applicable. Microsoft products also comply with applicable US Department of Energy and US state energy conservation standards and international energy regulations. All Surface products are designed to meet Energy Star Computer Specification 7.1. Products that are equipped with external power supplies meet or exceed international efficiency requirements. Microsoft is a signatory to the EU’s Game Console Voluntary Agreement which commits Microsoft to strive for improved game console energy efficiency.

If you have any questions on the environmental compliance status of Microsoft devices, please contact askect@microsoft.com.

Wendy Phippen

Director, Environmental Compliance