



# EucoLight – LightingEurope Platform on Article 15 WEEE Directive - Product Sheet on Product Categories

## Introduction

The lighting industry, represented by such industry associations as EucoLight (representing European lighting WEEE compliance schemes) and LightingEurope (representing manufacturers of lighting products, equipment and luminaires) has long been involved with the recycling of lighting products and equipment. For example, it played an influential role in the development of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive.

The WEEE Directive sets collection, recycling and recovery targets for several categories, including large household appliances, small household appliances and lighting equipment (lamps/LEDs).

In addition to the legal obligations established by the WEEE Directive, EucoLight and LightingEurope have collaborated to facilitate an exchange of information relevant to the recycling of lighting products. The present document aims to illustrate the information producers already provide for various lamp types and lighting products, based on the Art. 15 WEEE Directive requirements regarding the presence of substances, mixtures, components and other information needed to prepare a product for environmentally-sound recycling.

*Disclaimer: The information contained within this document is meant to be used as an indication of what information recyclers need to have to ensure the correct treatment of lighting products. For more detailed information, please contact the manufacturers directly.*

## Category: LED Luminaires

### Items to be removed from any separately collected WEEE:

- ) Substances: luminaires use LEDs that emit white light. The LEDs' composition consists of metals, phosphor, plastics and an InGaN (Indium Gallium Nitride) semiconductor chip. Due to their insolubility and inertness, these materials do not present a significant hazard.
- ) Components: components are made of high molecular weight polymers that are not expected to be hazardous. The LED electronic driver is built into the lamp's housing. The driver consists of elements that are substantially similar, but not identical, to those parts used throughout the electronics and general entertainment equipment industries.

### Additional information needed to prepare components or whole appliances for environmentally-sound recycling:

- ) There are no known health concerns resulting from exposure to intact luminaires or from occasional exposure to broken luminaires.
- ) LightingEurope recommends that all luminaires and their components be recycled.

### Special handling information:

- ) Use OSHA-approved safety glasses or goggles, puncture resistant gloves and protective or old clothing.
- ) Avoid generating dust during clean-up.
- ) Do not use standard vacuum cleaners during clean-up. Optionally, sweep up all particles using disposable gloves or wipe up with a damp cloth or paper towel. Place all waste in a puncture-resistant closed container or double-bag. Dispose of materials according to local regulations.
- ) Practice personal hygienic protocol. Wash hands thoroughly before eating, drinking, smoking, handling tobacco products, applying cosmetics, or using toilet facilities. Dispose of contaminated clothing. Seek competent medical assistance for any concerns or in the case of an exposure.