# **EU WEEE shipments guideline**



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European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law

#### EU waste shipments legislation



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- Waste framework directive
  - Definition of waste
  - Member States make own national waste legislation
- Waste shipment regulation 1013/2006
  - Direct applicable to all member states
- Enforcement
  - Individual member states are responsible for enforcement
  - Cases are brought to national court
    - →Appeal at European Court of Justice

# EU Guidelines



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- Correspondents meeting EC + member states (formal status)
  - Implementation questions
  - Level playing field
- Guidelines for important issues
  - Agreement of member states
  - No formal status, based on latest jurisdiction
  - Important in national court decisions
    - $\rightarrow$  Interpretation of European court of Justice is binding

# WEEE shipments guideline: EEE or WEEE?



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• EEE becomes WEEE if its holder discards it, or intends or is required to discard it.

• To make this judgement it is necessary to examine the history of an item on a case by case basis.

• The guideline gives indications



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## Jurisdiction, simplified

Waste remains waste, till:

- Recoverd to new material
- Refurbished to be reused for the original purpose

### WEEE



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- Equipment is waste:
  - Not complete, essential parts are missing
  - Physical damage that effects functionality or safety
  - Insufficient packaging
  - Generally damaged, reducing marketability
  - Content is prohibited (e.g. CFC's)
  - Equipment is destined for disposal
  - No regular market
  - Out-dated or destined for cannibalization

### EEE, non-waste



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- Equipment is non waste:
  - Fully functional and,
  - Not destined for recovery or disposal, and
  - Directly used for the original purpose
- The holder should provide/take care of:
  - Contract of reuse, and
  - Evaluation or testing documentation, and
  - Declaration that the equipment is non-waste
  - Sufficient packaging

### EEE, non-waste



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- Warranty goods
  - Defective batches that are sent <u>back</u> for repair to the producer or repair centres with the intention of re-use.

- The holder should provide/take care of:
  - Declaration that the equipment is non-waste
  - Sufficient packaging

## Enforcement



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- When the shipment doesn't comply to the guideline:
  - Shipment is blocked for further investigation
    - $\rightarrow$  delay + extra costs for shipper
  - Investigation to origin and evaluation/testing by shipper
  - Testing the equipment
- When the shipment is illegal:
  - Repatriating to the country of dispatch at shippers costs
  - Optional: Criminal investigation

## Points of discussion



- Small defects
  - Shipper needs to do investigation
  - Functionality and safety

- Hazardous non-hazardous
  - Preparation of additional document



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## More information:



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#### EU waste shipment guidelines:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/shipments/guidance.htm

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