

Vicor position paper concerning the EU WEEE Law in accordance with Directive (2002/96/EC)

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive (2002/96/EC) is the European Union Community Directive on waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment. This Directive, together with the EU RoHS Directive, became law in February, 2003. The WEEE Directive sets collection, recycling and recovery targets for all types of electrical goods.

The Directive imposes the responsibility for the disposal of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) on the manufacturers of such equipment. Manufacturers of such equipment should design electrical and electronic equipment in such a way as to eliminate the waste items of interest (PCBs containing capacitors over 10 cm² of surface area, equipment containing PVC or Brominated Flame Retardants, Radioactive Materials, etc.), and they should also establish an infrastructure for collection and disposal of household and business Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE). Also, the companies are compelled to use the collected waste in an ecological-friendly manner, either by ecological disposal or by reuse/refurbishment of the collected WEEE.

The WEEE Directive obliged the twenty-five EU member states to transpose its provisions into national law by August 13, 2004, and all but Malta and the UK had transposed framework regulations by August 13, 2005. Currently, only the UK has yet to pass WEEE Legislation, and they are now working on National Legislation for the transposition of the WEEE Directive.

The Scope of the EU WEEE Directive can be found in Annex IA and IB of the Directive. Per these Annexes, Vicor does not produce any Electrical and Electronic Equipment that would fall under the scope of the WEEE Directive. Vicor does produce equipment which Vicor Customers incorporate into their higher level assemblies, but this places the responsibility for WEEE Compliance, Marking and Reporting on Vicor OEM Customers.

In Summary:

- The EU WEEE Directive, in conjunction with the EU RoHS Directive, concerns itself with a particular scope of electrical and electronic equipment.
- Vicor does not currently produce any products which would be included in the scope of the WEEE Directive. Consequently, all Vicor product can be legally sold in the EU, without any additional marking, testing or certification.
- As a result of having no product considered to be within the scope of the WEEE Directive, Vicor has no additional reporting requirements under the EU WEEE Directive, or any of the national transposition directives.