

# Announcement M, M2T, MLW & CWSC Series

## New EU-RoHS Directive

The EU-RoHS Directive issued a new announcement (EU 2019/171 released February 5, 2019), and the exemption for cadmium and its compounds contained in electrical contacts was updated. After the expiration date of exemption for each category, some of NKK's products will no longer be EU-RoHS compliant. Equipment, categories, expiration dates, exemptions and effected series products are detailed below and on page 2.

### Outline of EU-RoHS Directive (2019/171, issued February 5, 2019)

Previously, cadmium in electrical contacts was recognized as an Exemption 8(b) classification in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) Categories 1 through 7 and 10. However, Exemption 8(b) will end on February 29, 2020. Each final product category and the expiration dates are shown on the following table.

Category	Electrical and Electronic Equipment Category (Annex 1)	Before	* After	
		8(b)	8(b)	8(b)-I
1	Large household appliances (LHA)	Exempt	Ending 2/29/2020	7/21/2021  See page 2 for products categorized in 8(b)-I
2	Small household appliances (SHA)			
3	IT and telecommunications equipment			
4	Consumer equipment			
5	Lighting equipment			
6	Electrical and electronic tools			
7	Toys, leisure and sports equipment			
8	Medical devices	7/21/2021	—	
	In vitro diagnostic medical devices	7/21/2023	—	
9	Monitoring and control instruments (for consumer products)	7/21/2021	—	
	Industrial monitoring and control instruments	7/21/2024	—	
10	Automatic dispensers	Exempt	Ending 2/29/2020	7/21/2021  See page 2 for products categorized in 8(b)-I
11	Other EEE not covered in any of the categories above	7/21/2024		—

\* Dates in these columns indicate the expiration dates of cadmium for the contacts.

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# New EU-RoHS Directive

### EU-RoHS Exemption 8(b)-I

As of March 1, 2020, cadmium and its compounds in electrical contacts used for the following applications are classified in 8(b)-I.

- Breakers, heat sensing control devices, thermal motor protectors (excluding sealed thermal motor protectors)
- AC rated switches (6A @ 250V AC or more, 12A @ 125V AC or more)
- DC rated switches (20A @ 18V DC or more)
- Switches that use a voltage supply frequency of 200Hz or more

The exemption will continue until July 21, 2021 for switches with above conditions.

For details on the official European Union Gazette, see the following:

[https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir\\_del/2019/171/oj](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir_del/2019/171/oj)

### EU-RoHS Directive (2019/171) and the Scope of NKK's Products

As shown in Change Notice Contact No. 352, all of NKK's standard products are below the maximum levels for ten EU-RoHS directive regulated substances. According to the new EU-RoHS Directive (EU 2019/171), if the products contain cadmium and its compounds and the EEE is categorized as 1 through 7 or 10, the result will be restrictions on distribution, shipping or sales of the products in the EU. Some of NKK's products contain 100 ppm or more of cadmium in the contact area and the product may no longer be EU-RoHS compliant, depending on the EEE category. If you use these products, confirm that the cadmium content is compatible with your equipment and application.

### Applicable Product Series

All products that contain cadmium in the electrical contacts and that are categorized as 1 through 7 or 10 in the EEE are subject to the regulations after March 1, 2020. These include the following:

- M Series Toggle Switches
- M Series Rocker Switches
- M2T Toggle Switches
- M2T Rocker Switches
- MLW Rocker Switches
- CWSC Rocker Switches

### Notes

- Effected part numbers are shown  
[https://www.nkkswitches.eu/documents/engineering/changenotices/20200204\\_eurohs\\_os.pdf](https://www.nkkswitches.eu/documents/engineering/changenotices/20200204_eurohs_os.pdf)
- Contact NKK Switches if more details are needed

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