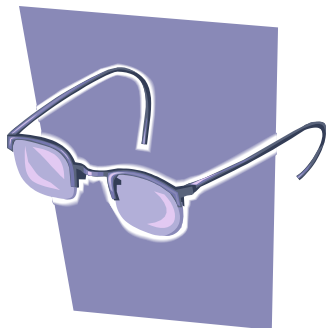




Give the Gift of Sight

Here's a great use for your old prescription eyeglasses!

In early December, Lenscrafters will close all of its retail outlets for a day to give free eye exams and free glasses to underprivileged people all over the country, including the Bay



Area. Each pair of eyeglasses turned in provides an exam and glasses for one adult or child. To date, over 4 million free glasses have been distributed worldwide to those in need in this way.

If you have glasses you are no longer using, you may deposit them in the basket in the front lobby at SEL, or drop them off at any Lenscrafters store.

We'll be turning the glasses in to the area coordinators for this effort on December 2nd. You'll be making a tremendous difference to those unable to afford vision care for themselves or their children.



This is a nationwide effort, Please click [here](#) for more details.

Thank you!



WEEE.... Here We Go Again...

1995 déjà vu! For those of you who were in compliance back in the mid 1990s when the CE Marking became mandatory, and it was the European Community, not the European Union — the new Waste of Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) Directives soon to take effect probably make you feel like you have been here before. It is a decade later, the EU has enacted new laws, and the same level of confusion and uncertainty exists as it did when the CE Marking first came about. It reminds me of my favorite definition for CE, "Confusion Everywhere."

When the CE marking first became mandatory, there were cases where manufacturers were expected to comply with conflicting and/or not yet published standards. Well, as these new Directive takes affect (WEEE August 13, 2005 and RoHS July 1, 2006); much of the confusion and challenges of the LVD and EMC Directives is

occurring all over again.

With only months before the WEEE Directive is to take effect, we are yet to find an "official" published guidance document on applying the Directive. There is even much debate as to how products are to be marked. The DTI's (from the UK) draft guidance document specifies the use of the "bin" logo from Annex III of the Directive (see image). The DTI guide also specifies that only products shipped after August 13, 2005 should be marked with the logo, indicating they are compliant and have been placed on the market after August 13th. For many companies this will be a logistical nightmare.

The biggest challenge with the WEEE Directive is that it does not follow the protocol of most directives. Each EU state may create its own policies and procedures for implementing the Directive. As such, until each state publishes its rules, it is impossible to know exactly how to comply with the Directive. To make matters worse, many of the EU states have not yet designated an entity to administer

the Directive.

Because of the all the uncertainty on how the Directive will be implemented, we are keeping our recommendations very basic at this time.

We do suggest, however, that you begin the following as soon as possible:

- 1) Start contracting with recyclers in Europe for the take back and recycling of your equipment.
- 2) Plan to apply the WEEE logo to products and packaging.
- 3) Create a strategy to inform your customers on how to go about recycling your products.
- 4) Create an overall corporate plan for addressing the new Directive (s).

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Special points of interest:

- For agency visit dates to SEL and seminar dates, see the Calendar page on our website.
- For information between newsletter issues, see our website or call us directly.
- To see SEL's facility or see directions to our office please visit our website at www.SELdirect.com.

Happy Holidays Everyone!!





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Did you know?

- **IEC60950-1, 2nd Edition**, for ITE is in its final draft stage and will likely be published by the end of 2005. There are some significant changes regarding systems with multiple inputs and leakage current!
- **IEC60950-22, 1st Edition** is expected to be published by the end of 2005, and is for ITE installed outdoors. SELV voltage limits have changed significantly in this one.
- The **Optical Radiation Directive** in the EU is in the works, for worker safety with respect to exposure to UV, infrared and laser sources. This appears to be almost like OSHA workplace considerations, ANSI Z136.1, IEC60825, and ICNIRP — all rolled into one.
- All power cords and similar products with AC plugs shipped to **Australia and New Zealand** today must have sheathed power pins and comply with the bending/torque tests of AS/NZS3112:2004.
- Similar to Australia above, **Korea** is requiring a sheathed pin construction.
- **BSMI** certification for Taiwan includes product safety for many products beginning in mid-2005!

SEL Handouts

For our clients, we offer 2-4 page summaries of those traditional problem areas, including:

- Plastics flammability
- Labeling
- Manuals
- Factory Inspections
- Standards Evolution
- Process Flowchart
- Spacings
- Why Do Product Safety?
- CB Scheme
- CE Mark and the European Union
- Input Requirements for DC Battery Banks
- Production Line Test Procedures

Product Safety News



TUV Rheinland customers should have recently received communication from TUV reminding them to either cancel their existing certificates, or be prepared to pay for the annual licensing fees for 2006.

If you have not received such correspondence, you should contact TUV with this information proactively to avoid unnecessary fees and hassles. Customers in the Bay Area can contact TUV locally at (925) 249-9123.

Underwriters Laboratories in the Bay Area recently moved to a new location after 50+ years in Santa Clara. The Silicon Valley Office is now located in San Jose, California at 455 E. Trimble Road. The new main phone number is (408) 754-6500 and the extensions have all changed. Due to the significantly smaller office that does not include any EMI chambers or testing capabilities,

UL will be outsourcing its EMC testing efforts moving forward. The "one-stop-shop" is great in theory but much more difficult to deliver, even for a reputable company with good brand recognition like UL.

SEL has recently signed an agreement with Elliott Laboratories, located in Sunnyvale, CA, where SEL will be supporting some of Elliott's more challenging product safety certification efforts. For years, SEL has been in this role of supporting CKC Laboratories in the Bay Area by providing safety consulting and testing for its customers. We consider these relationships with the two major EMI labs in the Bay Area to be validation of our processes and efforts, and we look forward to this new relationship with Elliott Labs.

Useful Websites

For the main PSES website, visit...

<http://www.ieee-pses.org>

SEL posts its agency visit schedule on...

<http://www.SELdirect.com/calendar.htm>



Important Upcoming Dates!

8/13/2005: Retailers need to have a system and start implementing "take back" programs for customers for their old products.

7/1/2006: After this date, ITE products placed on the European Market must comply with EN60950-1:2001. There is a very good chance that your power supply is done to an older standard! UL is using this same date, after which only UL60950-1 can be used to evaluate new product submittals.

7/1/2006: RoHS substances ban comes into effect in EU.