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PUBLICLY AVAILABLE SPECIFICATION

PRE-STANDARD

Electrotechnical products – Determination of restricted substances – Sampling procedure – Guidelines

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ELECTROTECHNICAL PRODUCTS – DETERMINATION OF RESTRICTED SUBSTANCES – SAMPLING PROCEDURE – GUIDELINES

FOREWORD

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IEC-PAS 62596 has been processed by IEC technical committee 111: Environmental standardization for electrotechnical products and systems.

The text of this PAS is based on the following document:	This PAS was approved for publication by the P-members of the committee concerned as indicated in the following document
Draft PAS	**Report on voting**
111/112/PAS	111/126/RVD

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This PAS shall remain valid for an initial maximum period of 3 years starting from the publication date. The validity may be extended for a single 3-year period, following which it shall be revised to become another type of normative document, or shall be withdrawn.

INTRODUCTION

In the electrotechnical industry, much emphasis has been placed on minimizing the environmental burden of its products. Waste handling, recycling, chemicals and energy consumption are covered by regulations. Specifically, the use of materials containing lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), cadmium (Cd) and hexavalent chromium (Cr VI), as well as two types of brominated flame retardants (polybrominated biphenyls, PBBs, and polybrominated diphenyl ethers, PBDEs) in electrotechnical equipment is restricted in current and proposed regional legislation.

To demonstrate compliance with these requirements, it may be necessary to analyse electrotechnical products for a variety of reasons:

- to supplement supply chain material declarations (companies may choose to test products directly to determine compliance);
- companies may require their suppliers to perform analysis to support material declarations;
- companies may perform "spot checks" of their suppliers to assess compliance
- enforcement authorities may perform testing as part of their market surveillance activities.

IEC 62321 already provides test methods for the determination of six regulated substances in electrotechnical products. However, the preparatory steps before the analysis are critically important in obtaining accurate, reproducible results. Prior to this PAS, there was virtually no guidance or consensus as to how electrotechnical products should be sampled.

The purpose of this PAS is primarily to complement IEC 62321 by providing agreed guidelines on how electrotechnical products, assemblies and components should be sampled to determine the levels of restricted substances present.

Please note sampling and analytical testing is not the only way to obtain relevant information on the levels of substances in an electrotechnical product or component. Experience and knowledge of the materials used could remove the need for sampling and testing; for example, flame retardants are never used in metals. Furthermore, analytical test reports and material declarations received can be used to demonstrate that the levels of restricted substances are below the required limits.