



BENSONS INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS INC.

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Re: Materials for the Components of Ring Binder Metals

The E.U. RoHS regulation concerning limitation on the use of certain hazardous substances in electronic and electrical devices, aims at reducing the use of substances that may be harmful to human health and environment. According to RoHS regulation, all member states should assure compliance with the regulation from July 2006 onwards, and the new electronic (w/w) will not be allowed to sell in EU market. The limitations on the content of the following substances are as follows:

- Lead (Pb) \leq 0.1% Hg \leq 0.1% Cadmium (Cd) \leq 0.01%
- Cr⁶⁺ \leq 0.1% Polybrominated biphenyl (PBB) \leq 0.1%
- Polybrominated biphenyl ether \leq 0.1%

Our electroplating process on binder metals includes nickel plating and electrophoretic coating. The nickel anodes for nickel plating are produced by INCO Canada. The nickel content is above 99.98%, and the content of the above substances is: Lead (Pb) < 0.001%, Cadmium (Cd) < 0.001%. There is no content of Chromium, Hg, Polybrominated biphenyl (PBB) and Polybrominated biphenyl ether (PBDE). The content of this substance in the plating layer is the same as the nickel anodes. The concentration of hazardous substances is below the requirement of RoHS regulation, which meets the standard.

In the electrophoretic coating: Lead (Pb) \leq 0.0005%, Cadmium (Cd) < 0.0005%, Hg < 0.00067%, Chromium (Cr) < 0.0005%. There is no content of Polybrominated biphenyl (PBB) and Polybrominated biphenyl ether (PBDE), which meets the requirement of RoHS.

The materials for the manufacturing of housing, rings, blades, boosters and eyelets are all low carbon steel. Besides iron, the main chemical elements contained in the steel are as follows:

Chemical Element	Carbon (C)	Manganese (Mn)	Silicon (Si)	Sulphur (S)	Phosphorus (P)
Content	\leq 0.15%	\leq 0.55%	\leq 0.30%	\leq 0.05%	\leq 0.05%

Guidelines

As the leading producer of ring and lever mechanics we have developed certain material specifications in co-operation with our suppliers. Those materials are the basis for long-lasting quality and continuity with rational and thus economical production at the same time. All materials used are purchased from European suppliers.

For the manufacture of our products there are standard-specifications, which include the ring opening force/strength, aperture width, ring diameter and several other criteria.

These specifications are controlled and measured according to a control guideline from our colleagues in production.

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Pollutants / Harmful Substances in Mechanisms

Hereby we confirm that the mechanisms from RING ALLIANCE do not contain the following substances:

- Lead**
- Bromine**
- Dioxins and Furane**
- Cadmium**
- Chrome**
- Copper**
- Mercury**
- Other heavy metals**
- PCB / PCT**
- Formaldehyde**
- Softener**

The accuracy of this information is being confirmed:

**Quality referee / Quality Manager
DI A. Ellend**

This certificate is valid also without signature, as per EN 10204.



Your Source for Ring Metals and a Whole Lot More!
Come see... *The Other Side of Bensons*

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**FACTORY STATEMENT ON RECYCLED CONTENT OF LOOSE-LEAF RINGS AND
OTHER NICKEL PLATED STEEL ACCESSORY ITEMS.**

STATEMENT DATED JUNE 14, 2007

Our ring mechanisms and L/A mechanisms are mainly made of cold rolled steel. But the cold rolled steel itself is not a recycled material.

The steel suppliers do mix some other recycled materials when making the steel. We checked with our steel suppliers, they confirmed that the steel that they are supplying to us apply the recycled materials in the making, the steel suppliers informed us that the steel contains about 15-25% recycled materials.

Koloman Handler Kft.



Information about recycled material contained in ring binder mechanisms.

The ring mechanisms produced in our factory are manufactured of rolled steel strips and coiled up wires. The wire or the steel strip itself is not a recycled material.

The steel manufacturing factories add some recycled materials during the steel production process.

Therefore we discussed this issue with our steel suppliers and they confirmed that the steel that they are supplying to us contains about 15-30% recycled materials.

Oroszlány, the 23rd of September 2008