



Extrusion Technology
80 Trim Way
Randolph, MA 02368
(781) 963-7200
www.xtech-outside.com

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Dear Customers,

In keeping with our commitment to update you on XTech's RoHS initiative we are sharing some advance information regarding an exemption which would allow the use of hexavalent chrome in metal finishes for IT and telecom equipment until July 2007.

XTech RoHS components requiring Clear Chromate over an aluminum substrate do not contain hexavalent chrome. Our processes and those of our supply chain were converted to trivalent chrome chemistries in 2005.

We want to assure all of our IT and telecom customers that this anticipated exemption will not affect XTech's commitment to continue to supply environmentally friendly, trivalent chromium chemistries in our metal finishes. The considerable investment in the conversion of our supply chain in 2005 and an overarching commitment to maintain the stewardship of the RoHS initiative serve to reinforce this position.

For reference, here is a summary of the preliminary EU announcement:

On 26 June 2006, the TAC (Technical Adaptation Committee of the EU Commission) voted to approve an exemption for the use of Hexavalent Chromium as follows:

"27. Hexavalent Chromium in corrosive preventive coatings of unpainted metal sheetings and fasteners used for corrosion protection and Electromagnetic Interference Shielding in equipment falling under category three of Directive 2002/96/EC (IT and telecommunications equipment). Exemption granted until 1 July 2007." This exemption will not become official until the EU Commissioner signs it.

If there is any other information I can supply, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Steve Richardson

Compliance Program Manager

srichardson@xtech-outside.com