

11 June 2009

Dear Valued Southco Customer:

The European Union has issued directives that prohibit the use of certain hazardous substances. The RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances) directive became effective July 1, 2006. The ELV (End of Life Vehicle) Directive became effective July 1, 2007.

Through extensive research, Southco identified alternative materials and finishes which comply with these directives. With regards to finishes, new finish options were evaluated on appearance and corrosion protection to assure continued delivery of the same high value Southco product.

Southco began making changes to most non-compliant product lines in October of 2004. These targeted product lines are now manufactured in compliance with the current revision of the European RoHS Directive (2002/95/EC).

In some cases, aesthetics of our parts were improved by changing from a non-compliant yellow chromate finish to a compliant bright finish with the following performance characteristics:

- Zinc plating with trivalent chromate provides a typical performance of 144 hours to red rust per ASTM B117.
- Zinc plating with trivalent chromate and sealer provides a typical performance of 240 hours to red rust per ASTM B117.

Inventory of Southco products is controlled by internal lot identification. For customer identification, we have provided a marking of "RoHS Compliant" on the box label of compliant products. Due to a transition period, we ask customers to contact techsupport@southco.com if the RoHS status is not listed on the box label or if there are any questions related to the RoHS and ELV directives.

Sincerely,



Albert J. Frattarola
Director of Global Technology

