EEE producers: what you must do

You must register as a producer annually. How you do this depends on how much electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) you put on the UK market in the previous calendar year (also known as a compliance year).

If you place less than 5 tonnes of EEE on the UK market in a compliance year, you can register direct with your environmental regulator as a small producer.

If you place more than 5 tonnes of EEE on the market, you must join a producer compliance scheme (PCS). The PCS takes on your obligations to finance the collection, treatment, recovery and environmentally sound disposal of household WEEE collected in the UK.

Direct registration as a small producer

You can register on the National Packaging Waste Database (NPWD).

You will be asked for your business location and the system will identify the relevant regulator:

- Environment Agency (England)
- Natural Resources Wales (Wales)
- Northern Ireland Environment Agency (Northern Ireland)
- Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (Scotland)

You must register by 31 January every year or within 28 days of placing EEE on the market for the first time.

When you register you need to tell us how much EEE you placed on the market in the previous calendar year by category. See scope guidance on how to correctly identify EEE.

You will also need to tell us whether it’s household (also known as business to consumer - B2C) or non-household (also known as business to business - B2B). See the guidance on how to correctly identify B2C and B2B EEE and WEEE.

You can use a third party to register you and submit your data. You can use a PCS as a third party and not register as a member but it won’t take on your legal responsibilities. Or you can choose to register as a full compliance scheme member.

If you find you place 5 tonnes or more EEE on the market during a compliance year and you’ve registered as a small producer, you must notify the relevant environmental regulator and join a compliance scheme within 28 days.

You can apply for approval to become a PCS where you will be the only member.

You may also have a producer obligation to finance the cost of collection, treatment, recovery and environmentally sound disposal of non-household EEE arising from end-users.
Joining a Producer Compliance Scheme (PCS)

If you placed more than 5 tonnes of EEE on the UK market you must join a PCS. You must do this by 15 November each year. If you enter the UK EEE market after 15 November you must join a PCS within 28 days of placing the EEE on the UK market. You must also be a member of a PCS in the compliance year immediately following the last compliance period which you put more than 5 tonnes of EEE on the market in the UK.

See a list of approved PCSs. Check their service meets your needs. If you put both household and non-household EEE on the market you can join two schemes, one for each. Or you can join one scheme for both.

The PCS will charge fees for its services. This includes fees for collection and treatment costs of WEEE on your behalf.

You must give your PCS information about your business. You must provide the amount of EEE you placed on the UK market by category as requested by the scheme.

What the PCS does on your behalf

The PCS takes on your obligations to finance the collection, treatment, recovery and environmentally sound disposal of household and non-household WEEE collected in the UK.

Household WEEE

A PCS is given a collection target for its whole membership for each compliance year. Each producer is responsible for financing a portion of that target based on its market share in each of the 14 product categories of EEE it sells. The PCS reports the information needed by the relevant environmental regulator every three months.

Non-household WEEE

The PCS takes on your financial obligations for non-household WEEE arising in each compliance period from:

- EEE a producer placed on the market on or after 13 August 2005;
- EEE that was placed on the market before 13 August 2005, regardless of the producer, which the user is replacing with equivalent new EEE.

This applies unless alternative arrangements have been made between the producer and the business end-user.

See the guidance on how to correctly identify business to consumer (B2C) and business to business (B2B) EEE and WEEE.

The PCS reports the information needed by the relevant environmental regulator once per year.