

Alcon UK WEEE take-back Policy

Internal Reference Documents:

CORP -001239 Environmental Requirements for Returned Goods Management/
Product Take-back

CORP-001243 Solid Waste Management

CORP-001352 Commercial Equipment Returned to Alcon Laboratories, Inc.

Background

Alcon Laboratories (UK) Limited provides amongst other products some electrical and electronic medical devices for general eye care ranging from electrical probes and handpieces to larger cataract consoles. These medical devices are imported from Alcon's overseas manufacturing sites based primarily in the United States, and placed onto the market via sale to hospitals or private clinics across the UK and Eire.

A core part of the Alcon (UK) business is the fulfilment of maintenance and service contracts related to this equipment and we aim to have a high level of contact with our customers. The majority of the Alcon electrical and electronic medical devices have a long life span, and these contracts are in place for many years.

Preservation of resource and responsible product stewardship

Alcon began assuming responsibility for decommissioned Alcon products voluntarily long before the European Union issued its Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive. Since the Directive passed into national law, manufacturers of electrical and electronic equipment in the EU member states have been required to take back and recycle or dispose of products by environmentally compatible means. These statutory requirements affect a number of Alcon products including cataract machines and phacoemulsification handpieces.

WEEE Directive and Compliance

Alcon (UK) complies with the requirements laid down in the WEEE Directive. In both UK and Eire we operate take-back systems, and we have entered into agreements with EEA authorised recycling and treatment companies who operate within defined processing standards, ensuring that product take-back and disposal are completed in-line with statutory requirements and that valuable resources are preserved.

Alcon (UK) have registered with Valpak's producer compliance scheme, and are working with a well known waste collection company to create an effective reporting system, which allows reporting to Valpak for onward transmission and verification to the Environmental Agency.

Alcon in Eire have registered with the WEEE Register Society Limited in Ireland and with Rehab Recycle to comply with the WEEE directive

Alcon UK WEE registration Number

Products placed on market in UK:

WEE/CC0043SY/PRO

Products placed on market in Eire:

WEEE Register Society Limited No.: IE 01183

Alcon ensures that from product concept stage, all duty of care is taken to minimise any environmental impact, and thereby minimises the quantity of materials requiring end of life recycling and disposal.

Alcon's Take-back policy for WEEE

- Alcon will arrange collection, and cover the financial cost of collection, treatment, and recovery of all New WEE (i.e items marked with the crossed out wheelie bin and placed on the market after 13th August 2005) and all historic WEE (i.e. items not bearing the crossed-out wheelie bin, but which were subject to a "like-for like" sale)
- A "like-for like-sale" is defined as a sale which involves the an electrical or electronic product which replaces the old item and is of equivalent type and performs the same function
- Further information on how to arrange collection of EEE sold to you by Alcon is available by contacting Alcon's Technical Service Department on 01442 341234.