

RoHS analysis laboratory

On April 12, 2006, CRIQ and the RIE leveraged the launch of the new RoHS compliance services to officialize a second collaboration agreement designed to help Quebec companies deal with new international environmental legislations such as the RoHS (Restriction Of Hazardous Substances) directive governing electrical and electronic equipment. This directive, which restricts the use of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment (EEE), will be effective as of July 2006.

Aware of the urgency to provide Quebec companies with a tool enabling them to accelerate the upgrade of their products to comply with this directive, the Regroupement de l'industrie électronique (RIE) has asked the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec (CRIQ) to assess its interest in offering the services required as per this new legislation. Having already begun planning for the application of the directive, CRIQ was a willing partner from the start.

This process gave rise to a second collaboration agreement between CRIQ and the RIE, *and led to the implementation of the RoHS Compliance Service.*

Now, manufacturers of electrical and electronic products can ask for RoHS audits **in Québec**, in a laboratory that offer the full range of tests required by the new directives. In fact, CRIQ already performs all of the tests related to European exports, among others. Adding RoHS audits was the natural next step, all the more so since CRIQ already accounts for solid expertise in the environmental field. And this is only the first step considering CRIQ is also taking an interest in new directives – such as EuP and REACH – whose requirements will also affect this industry in the years to come.

The collaboration agreement entered by CRIQ and the RIE will help companies meet the new requirements head on, and represents an excellent example of concrete collaboration. It clearly demonstrates the leadership of the RIE and its commitment toward the companies of the Quebec electronic sector.

