

Some confusion about RoHS lead-free soldering tips

In a post to one of the public electronics manufacturing e-mail forums, one engineer writes:

We are currently using Weller WTCP 50 and WTCP 51 solder stations and I want to continue using these for our RoHS compliant production lines. I therefore need to ensure that our boards are not contaminated by the solder tips. I took some unused solder tips and had them tested, and found that they contain levels of lead well in excess of the RoHS limit.

Talking to *((their supplier))*, I understand they have been advised by their solder station suppliers that solder tips do not fall under the RoHS directive, as they do not form part of an electronic product. They advise tinning the tip to act as a suitable barrier against lead leaching into the solder joint. This all sounds a bit risky.

We agree, it doesn't sound right, does it? Why run the risk of adding any lead to your lead-free process?

All our Plato® Soldering and Desoldering tips manufactured since January 2004 are lead-free in accordance with EU Directive 2002/95 EC. These products may be used in an electronics manufacturing process which produces RoHS compliant products. Please [let us know](#) if you want to try some.

Some confusion about RoHS lead-free soldering tips



Supplied by:

intertronics

INTERTRONICS

12a Station Field Industrial Estate, Banbury Road, Kidlington

Oxfordshire England OX5 1JD

t 01865 842842 e info@intertronics.co.uk

Last updated: June 2006

Statements, technical information and recommendations contained herein are based on tests we believe to be reliable but they are not to be construed in any manner as warranties expressed or implied. The user shall determine the suitability of the product for his intended use and the user assumes all risk and liability whatsoever in connection therewith.