



# ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT SAFETY SYSTEM (EESS)

## Re: Electric hot water bottles and Over blankets/duvets/wraps

We understand that your business or your clients may supply this type of equipment. This notice contains vital information that the regulatory requirements of Electric hot water bottles and Over blankets/duvets/wraps have changed.

On 30 June 2018, both Electric hot water bottles and Over blankets/duvets/wraps were re-classified, moving from “In-Scope” electrical equipment risk level 1 to level 3 under the [Electrical Equipment Safety System \(EESS\)](#) in participating jurisdictions.

The following table shows the basic requirements that are applicable.

Product type	Prior 30 June 2018	<b>From 30 June 2018</b>
	In-Scope Level 1	<b>In-Scope Level 3</b>
<u>Electric hot water bottles</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The product type and brand must be linked to the registered responsible supplier in the EESS national database; and</li><li>be marked with the Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The product must have a valid <a href="#">Certificate of Conformity</a> showing the product complies with the relevant Australian Standard AS/NZS 60335.2.81; and</li><li>The brand <b>and model/s</b> must be registered to the responsible supplier in the EESS national database; and</li><li>be marked with the Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM).</li></ul>
<u>Over blankets/duvets/wraps</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The product type and brand must be linked to the registered responsible supplier in the EESS national database; and</li><li>be marked with the Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The product must have a valid <a href="#">Certificate of Conformity</a> showing the product complies with the relevant Australian Standard AS/NZS 60335.2.71; and</li><li>The brand <b>and model/s</b> must be registered to the responsible supplier in the EESS national database; and</li><li>be marked with the Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM).</li></ul>

Note:

- Existing stock already in Australia prior 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 is considered In-Scope level 1 and can continue being sold until 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2019 provided the responsible supplier is registered.
- New products manufactured in Australia or imported after the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018, must comply with the requirements of In-Scope Level 3.
- After the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2019 all products must comply with the requirements of In-Scope level 3

To further clarify these requirements, please find enclosed for your convenience a frequently asked questions (FAQ) notice which may be of assistance.

Should you require further information relating to the certification and registration process, please email your enquiry to [EESSAdmin@oir.qld.gov.au](mailto:EESSAdmin@oir.qld.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

EESS Admin  
Electrical Safety Office, Queensland



# ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT SAFETY SYSTEM (EESS)

## FAQ on the change to:

### Electric hot water bottles and Over blanket / duvet / wraps

#### 1. Does this apply to you?

If the electric hot water bottles or over blanket / duvet / wraps you sell fits within the definitions below, then you need to take action as outlined herein:

#### Regulatory definition of electric hot water bottles

The standard *AS/NSZ 4417.2* defines *electric hot water bottles* under section B.2.62 as:

##### **Electric hot water bottles**

*Is an electrical appliance that—*

- (a) is for application of heat to parts of the human body;*
- (b) is flexible;*
- (c) contains liquid that is heated by internal electrical parts; and*
- (d) has a projected area not exceeding 0.6m<sup>2</sup>*

##### **Class specification:**

AS/NZS 60335.2.81



#### Regulatory definition of over blanket / duvet / wraps

The standard *AS/NSZ 4417.2* defines *over blanket / duvet / wraps* under section B.2.67 as:

##### **Over blanket / duvet / wrap**

*Is an electrical appliance that—*

- (a) is for application of heat to a person by placing or draping over the person;*
- (b) is flexible;*
- (c) does not contains any heated liquid*
- (d) has a fabric enclosure; and*
- (e) has a projected area not exceeding 0.6m<sup>2</sup>*

**and includes—**



# ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT SAFETY SYSTEM (EESS)

(f) any associated power supply or controller

**Class specification:**  
AS/NZS 60335.2.17



## **2. Are you the Responsible Supplier of electrical equipment in Australia or New Zealand?**

A responsible supplier in the Electrical Equipment Safety System (EESS) is an Australian or New Zealand importer or on-shore manufacturer of In-Scope electrical equipment.

If you are the importer or on-shore manufacturer of the In-Scope electrical equipment, you are required to ensure that the:-

### Level 3 in-scope electrical equipment:

- is electrically safe and meets the [relevant standard](#); and
- is marked with the Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM) in accordance with the requirements under *AS/NZS 4417.1*; and
- has a valid Australian or New Zealand issued [Certificate of Conformity](#); and
- you are registered in the national EESS database as a Responsible supplier; and
- level 3 electrical equipment you are manufacturing or importing is registered and linked to you.

### Level 2 In-scope electrical equipment:

- is electrically safe and meets the [relevant standard](#); and
- is marked with the Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM) in accordance with the requirements under *AS/NZS 4417.1*; and
- a [compliance folder](#) must be kept and made available, upon request, within 10 days; and
- you are registered in the national EESS database as a responsible supplier; and
- level 2 electrical equipment you are manufacturing or importing is registered and linked to you.

### Level 1 In-scope electrical equipment:

- is electrically safe and meets the [relevant standard](#); and
- is marked with the Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM) in accordance with the requirements under *AS/NZS 4417.1*; and
- documentary evidence, in English, must be kept to show that the item meets the relevant standard at the time the item was either manufactured or imported;<sup>1</sup> and
- you are registered in the national EESS database as a Responsible Supplier;
- you may optionally register level 1 electrical equipment in the national EESS database.

<sup>1</sup> This evidence must be kept by the responsible supplier for a period of five (5) years from the day the item is last manufactured or imported by the responsible supplier.



# ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT SAFETY SYSTEM (EESS)

For more information on how to register as responsible supplier and link products to you, please refer to the [EESS Applicant's Guide](#).

### **3. What is the RCM mark?**



**Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM) to be used in accordance with the requirements under AS/NZS 4417.1**

Responsible Suppliers are given a copy of AS/NZS 4417.1 when they register on the [National Database](#) as it includes the correct specification and proportions of the RCM.

### **4. Are you a wholesaler/retailer of electrical equipment?**

If you are a wholesaler/retailer of In-Scope electrical equipment, but not the importer or on-shore manufacturer, the following applies:

- you must not sell the electrical equipment unless it is marked with the Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM);<sup>2</sup> and
- you must verify with your supplier that the electrical equipment has been sourced from the registered responsible supplier of that equipment.

### **5. Need a valid Certificate of Conformity?**

A [Certificate of Conformity](#) is issued by either a state electrical safety regulator or an independent certifier which is accredited under the Queensland Recognised External Certificate Scheme (RECS).<sup>3</sup>

Queensland RECS accredited certifiers are:

- Certification Body Australia (CBA)
- EESS Conformity Certification Services
- Global-Mark Pty Ltd
- UL International New Zealand Limited
- SAA Approvals Pty Ltd

### **6. What are the requirements for existing stock already at the point of sale (i.e. retail or wholesaler)?**

- a) In the EESS, existing stock already in the market prior to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 does not need to meet requirement of being certified or registered. Prior to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 the equipment is level 1, and for level 1 the product type and brand may be linked<sup>^</sup> to the registered responsible supplier in the EESS national database and be marked with the Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM).
- b) New product imported by a responsible supplier after 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 is required to have a valid Certificate of Conformity showing compliance. The brand and model/s must be registered to the responsible supplier in the EESS national database and be marked with the Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM).

<sup>^</sup>See the Registration Applicant's Guide, section 2.1 Level 1 Equipment for detail on how to link.

### **7. Need help?**

For further information in meeting the requirements of the Electrical Equipment Safety System, review the information under the EESS tab on the ERAC website – [www.erac.gov.au](http://www.erac.gov.au) or call the EESS information line on 1300 362 128.

<sup>2</sup> If the electrical equipment is not marked with the RCM, the responsible supplier will need to have formal approval from the regulator to use an alternate mark.

<sup>3</sup> Certificates issued under New South Wales, Fair Trading, Recognised External Approval Schemes (REAS) are recognised in Queensland for New South Wales declared articles.