



February 18, 2010

To: Pulse Customers

Halogen-free Initiative

The trend in the electronics industry is to use low-halogen materials. A voluntary initiative has been undertaken by the electronics industry, known as the “Halogen-free Initiative.” This self imposed initiative bans the use of halogenated materials in the manufacture of electronic equipment. Certain types of halogenated materials have a detrimental effect on the environment as well as being toxic to humans and animals. The types of materials covered are mechanical plastic parts (thermoplastics), cables, printed circuit boards, electronic components, connectors, films, adhesives, tapes and vibration dampening parts.

Pulse has begun to anticipate various customer requirements related to the low-halogen or halogen-free initiative. Pulse is aware of industry trends and potential international laws and regulations related to the elimination of halogen in electronic components. And, also it has begun to investigate the impact of halogen-free complaint materials in all Pulse standard products. Pulse has developed a new product line that provides halogen-free compliant components that meet the requirements of IPC Organization standards – IPC/JEDEC J-STD 709 (proposed standard for ballot, January 2009). The strategy is to meet customer expectations in a most practical manner.

To easily determine the status of a Pulse component, all halogen-free components and assemblies will have the designation suffix of “HL” added as a suffix to the existing part number. As an example, the halogenated component H5007NL will become H5007HL. The “HL” suffix will mean that a part is both RoHS and halogen-free compliant. The halogen-free compliant components will be footprint interchangeable with Pulse standard halogenated components.

Pulse has identified and qualified halogen-free replacement materials on the majority of raw materials that were reviewed, while still in the process of successfully qualifying halogen-free materials on two major plastic materials. Pulse’s approach is to be ready and positioned for “halogen-free.”

Pulse strives to be informed about industry trends and continues to be proactive when it comes to environmental compliance issues pertaining to components and assemblies.

Contacts:

For questions regarding the availability of halogen-free, compliant products, please contact your local Pulse representative or Customer Service Department.