



SIEGE SOCIAL / HEADQUARTERS

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Bons-en-Chablais, 29/08/2005

**Subject :** Compliance with the Directives on Lead-free Technology (RoHS)  
**Ref. :** NICO-ROHS-290805-GB

### **1) NICOMATIC position**

Given the directive 2002/95/CE of the European Parliament and of the Council on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment to be effective from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 after it has been transposed by member states into national laws, and given the last modification for the purposes of establishing the maximum concentration values for certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment, we are pleased to inform you that all NICOMATIC products are in compliance with the RoHS directive starting 01/01/2005.

As stated in article 5, paragraph 1, point a), a tolerance of the maximum concentration of 0,1% lead by weight is accepted inside the homogeneous materials. All NICOMATIC part numbers have a concentration inferior to this tolerance, but are not 0% lead free.

We inform our clients that it is highly recommended to qualify the NICOMATIC RoHS products in their processes. Most lead free processes require a higher peak soldering or reflow temperature (+10°C to 20°C) and a longer exposure time. The conducted tests in lead free processes on NICOMATIC RoHS products show a total compatibility, however we cannot guarantee a 100% compliance of our components given the lack of standards or norms concerning the subject. Therefore, it is under our clients responsibility to fulfil qualification tests of the NICOMATIC products inside their own specific processes. To support this, NICOMATIC will provide the necessary samples. Any return on the tests is appreciated to complete our own information.

The transition to lead free – pure tin bright with nickel under layer – will take place before July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 given the state of advancement of the European directive and given the technical possibilities. For more information on the RoHS and Lead Free, we have selected these two websites as a valuable information source: [www.orgalime.org](http://www.orgalime.org) and [www.europa.eu.int](http://www.europa.eu.int).

### **2) Will part numbers change ?**

For standard products there is no modification of the part number, only our technical drawing version will be upgraded to avoid any confusion. The transition to lead free will be applied given the FIFO inventory management system and a specific marking will be added on the product packaging. For specific products NICOMATIC will reply in function of client specifications and apply the FIFO method.

**Mr O. NICOLLIN,**  
*RoHS Project Manager*

**Mr M. ARNAUD,**  
*Quality Director*

**Mr E. LECOURTOIS,**  
*Technical Director and Product Expert*

**Attached:** **Lead Free table**



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Bons-en-Chablais, le 15/06/06

**Ref. : NICO/RoHS/CMM/150606-GB**  
**Subject : Compliance with the Directives on Lead-free Technology (RoHS)**

### **Nicomatic Position for CMM connectors as per the RoHS directive**

NICOMATIC designs and manufactures CMM connectors, especially known for their strong resistance to harsh environments.

The NICOMATIC connectors have been developed for defence, aerospace and also medical applications. These end-user sectors are not directly concerned by the RoHS directive, which restricts the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment. However, in a medium to long term this directive will certainly also be applicable to the sectors mentioned mainly for legal and availability reasons.

CMM connectors are today 90/10 Sn/Pb plated on the solder part of the connector. For other industries and consumption markets NICOMATIC like other manufacturers on the marketplace has replaced the former plating by pure tin on nickel under layer. This plating does not present the same guarantees for the environments into which the product may be submitted.

That is why NICOMATIC has decided to replace the 90/10 Sn/Pb plating on the solder part by a gold flash plating on nickel under layer. This plating has the advantage of being RoHS compatible and presents the same level of performance compared to a 90/10 plating, and superior performance in terms of solderability and corrosion compared to a pure tin plating.

The effort made by NICOMATIC on the overcost linked to this plating allows his customers to avoid any inconvenience which may be caused by pure tin. The transition to the new RoHS conform plating will be applied given the FIFO inventory management system starting October 2006.

There is no modification of the part number as the assembly process does not change. NICOMATIC also reminds the "Forward Compatibility" of its CMM connectors with unleaded assembly processes from the origin.

A green "Lead Free" sticker will also be applied to the product packaging and an internal traceability per date code will allow to certify the compatibility to the European RoHS directive.

**Mr O. NICOLLIN,**  
*RoHS Project Manager*

**Mr M. ARNAUD,**  
*Quality Director*

**Mr E. LECOURTOIS,**  
*Technical Director and Product Expert*

**Attached: Lead Free table + addition on second page**