



# INFORMATION FOR IMPORTERS AND MANUFACTURERS OF PRODUCTS CONTAINING MERCURY

## FEDERAL REGULATIONS MAY APPLY TO YOU

The Products Containing Mercury Regulations (the Regulations) aim to reduce the risks to the environment and human health from mercury found in imported and manufactured products. These Regulations, developed under the authority of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA), came into force on November 8, 2015.

These Regulations **prohibit** the **import** and **manufacture** of products containing mercury or any of its compounds, with some exemptions for essential products which have no technically or economically viable alternatives.

For products exempted from this prohibition, **labelling**, **reporting** and **record keeping** requirements may still apply. Consult the Regulations for product-specific requirements.

## EXAMPLES OF PROHIBITED PRODUCTS

Some examples of prohibited mercury-containing products include:

- household thermometers and thermostats
- measuring devices such as barometers and hydrometers
- batteries
- switches and relays
- tire balancing products

## MAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE REGULATIONS

While the Regulations prohibit the import and manufacture of mercury-containing products in Canada, there are exemptions that allow for the import and manufacture of a small number of products, under certain conditions, such as:

- products listed in the Schedule of the Regulations, or
- products granted a permit approved by the Minister.

Some examples\* of exempted products and their respective mercury content limit (where applicable)

EXEMPTED PRODUCT	MERCURY CONTENT LIMIT
Dental amalgam	No limits
Compact fluorescent lamp ≤ 25 watts	4 mg per lamp
T8 4-foot or less straight fluorescent lamp with normal lifetime	4 mg per lamp
Cold cathode tubing for signage (e.g. neon signs) or cove lighting	100 mg per 2.44 m
Thermometer used in scientific research applications	No limits
Replacement parts†	No limits

\* Non-exhaustive list. Refer to the Schedule of the Regulations for a complete list.

† A part that is required for a product to continue to function and for which there is no mercury-free alternative or product listed in the Schedule of the Regulations that could serve as a direct substitute.



## PRODUCTS REGULATED BY ANOTHER FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY

Many mercury-containing products are already subject to other federal regulatory controls. The Regulations **do not** apply to such products as the risks they pose are already being managed by another federal department or agency.

These products include, but are not limited to: waste, food, drugs, cosmetics and pest control products. Refer to section 2 of the Regulations for more details.

## LABELLING REQUIREMENTS

Mercury-containing products allowed by the Regulations are required to have the following statement in a readily visible location on the product and/or the package:

**CONTAINS MERCURY / CONTIENT DU MERCURE**

Other required labelling information includes safe handling procedures, measures to be taken in case of accidental breakage, and options available for disposal and recycling.

In addition, certain specified products must display the symbol “Hg”, including items such as fluorescent lamps and cold cathode tubing.

Refer to sections 8 and 9 of the Regulations for more information.



## REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Manufacturers and importers of mercury-containing products allowed by the Regulations are required to report **every three years** on their activities (import, manufacture) and to provide product information (quantities, mercury content, etc).

A first report for the year 2016 was required by March 31, 2017. The next report will be required by March 31, 2020 and will cover the year 2019.

For more information on the Regulations, consult the Products Containing Mercury Regulations Web section: [canada.ca/mercury-products](http://canada.ca/mercury-products).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your regional Environment and Climate Change Canada office by email:

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All regulations under CEPA are subject to the Compliance and Enforcement Policy for the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999. For further information, consult the Compliance and Enforcement Policy for CEPA at: [www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/canadian-environmental-protection-act-registry/publications/compliance-enforcement-policy.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/canadian-environmental-protection-act-registry/publications/compliance-enforcement-policy.html).

This material has been prepared for convenience of reference only and does not have an official character. For the purpose of interpreting and applying the Regulations, users must consult the Regulations on Justice Canada's website: <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2014-254/>.

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