

EUROPEAN POWER SUPPLY MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION (Visit the EPSMA website at www.epsma.org)

Lead-free Soldering - Concerns and Practices

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This paper does NOT intend to be a standard.

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Lead-free soldering – concerns and practices

Introduction to lead-free soldering

The introduction of lead-free soldering brought a number of new issues to our industry that have the potential to change reliability characteristics of a previously reasonably well understood product area. These issues are associated with the use of different manufacturing / assembly processes and material sets.

Lead-free solder has due to RoHS (reduction of hazardous substances) requirements almost entirely replaced leaded solder. The change has gradually been accomplished during the last decade (2001 -2010). There are still some concerns regarding lead-free soldering and in this paper we try to throw light upon some common (and maybe some not so common) concerns and practices.