

ABB Oy
Product Support
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SAMI C

Recycling information for drive of type SAMI C

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1. Introduction

This document covers the environmental information of the following products:

- SAMI C product family made in Finland

The document comprises a summary of materials used in the products and instructions how to handle an end-of-life product.

This document is intended for ABB internal use as well as for commercial recyclers.

While environmental regulations vary from country and region to another, and are also evolving rapidly by time, it is recommended to contact local environmental authorities for up-to-date information when consulting with customers or other stakeholders about proper product material recovery or other treatment.

Information for local customers, like where an end-of-life product can be returned, is recommended to be provided with this information.

Further information is available from

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2. Product materials

Mounting tray	steel
Module	
• Line-haul section	zinc plated steel
• Internal section	zinc plated steel
Heat sink	aluminium
Fan	copper, steel, plastic insulation
• Cover for fan	nickel plated steel
Printed circuit boards 4 pcs	
• Cover for boards	plastic
GTO-modules 3 pcs or thyristors 6 pcs	
Charging thyristor	
Rectifier bridge	
Electrolytic capasitors 2 pcs	
RC-filter capasitors 3 pcs	
RC-filter reactors 2 pcs	iron, copper, plastic
Reactors	
• L2 and L4	copper, plastic
• L1	steel, copper, plastic
Connection bars (GTO)	silver plated copper
Cabling	copper, plastic

3. Product use

The use of a frequency converter has several positive environmental impacts, like

- Substantial energy savings can be reached using a frequency converter. According to investigations, these savings are in pump and fan drives typically 50 %. This means reduced CO₂ and NO_x emissions in power plants, due to reduced energy demand.
- Process controllability is improved when a state-of-the art drive is used as a part of a process control system, meaning reduced waste
- When a process can be driven in an optimal way, process equipment's (like conveyors' and pumps') wearing is reduced and life time increased, decreasing environmental loading caused by manufacturing new equipment
- Noise is in most cases reduced
- Natural resources like wood in pulp & paper industry are saved while process efficiency is improved

The frequency converter itself does not cause any emissions while in use. Due to reduced energy consumption, overall harmful emissions are reduced as described above.

4. Product disposal

Product disposal can be made in two alternative ways. The product can be disassembled manually or crushed in a shredding machine.

4.1 Manual disassembly

The product is disassembled manually and parts are sorted according to their material contents as follows:

- iron metals (plates, screws)
- aluminum (heatsink)
- plastics
- printed circuit boards*
- electrolytic capacitors*
- other*

* For more information, see 4.3 List of potentially harmful materials

Metal parts (iron and aluminum) can easily be recycled, other materials according to local arrangements.

4.2 Mechanical shredding

In this method, a whole product is mechanically shredded into small pieces and materials are sorted using dedicated sorting processes. Components containing harmful materials must, however, be removed before shredding (for more information, see 5.3 List of potentially harmful materials).

4.3 List of potentially harmful materials

Definitions and regulations of hazardous materials differ from country to country and are also changing when knowledge of materials increases. The materials used in the product are materials typically used in electric and electronic devices.

The list given below is based on the following references:

1. EACEM (European Association of Consumer Electronics Manufacturers)
List of Environmentally Relevant Substances.
2. Substances contained in products of the electrical/electronics industry.
Zentralverband Elektrotechnik- und Elektronikindustrie (ZVEI) e.V.,
Frankfurt am Main. 1995.
3. European Commission DG XI Environment, Nuclear Safety and Civil
Protection. Draft proposal for a directive on Waste Electrical
and Electronic Equipment. Brussels, July 5, 1999.
4. European Waste Catalogue EWC, EU Directive 94/3/EC.

Table: List of possibly harmful substances in different materials and components after previously mentioned references

Component	Harmful substance(s)	Reference
Printed circuit boards	lead (in solder)	1 2 3
	tetrabromobisphenol A (TBBA, flame retardant)	1 2 3
7-segment display in control panel	N/A	2 3
Electrolytic capacitors	N/A	3
	may contain harmful chemicals (DMAC/DMF) *	1 2
Plastics, rubber	none	
Iron metals	none	
Aluminum	none	
Power module (transistor and rectifier)	none	
Resistor	none	
Cables	PVC	1

* composition varies with the manufacture and technical development of the electrolytic capacitors
 N/A = not available

4.4 One recycling method

The procedure described below complies with regulations valid in Finland in January, 2000.

- steel recycled as material
- aluminum recycled as material
- plastics energy recovery (incineration) or landfilled
- printed circuit boards recycled to collect precious materials
- electrolytic capacitors sent for hazardous material treatment
- cables landfilled
- other materials energy recovery (incineration) or landfilled

5. Environmental management system of ABB Oy

Environmental management system (EMS)

ABB Oy has an environmental system covering all divisions and functions of the company. The EMS is certified to ISO 14001 since November, 1996.

The company's environmental objectives include among others items as follows,

- reduce use of material in products, difficult to recycle or reuse
- improve recyclability of products
- reduce environmental burden caused by packaging materials.

ABB Oy's environmental policy

ABB Oy is committed to an environmental policy, which is based on the following:

1. We develop and manufacture products such as alternating current electrical drives and automation systems that save our customers energy and raw materials and give them better control over their processes. We strive continuously to make our products environmentally more sound by applying results obtained in recyclability and life-cycle assessments.
2. We are committed to reducing the harmful environmental impacts of our operations by continuously improving the operation of our production processes.
3. Our minimum requirement is to abide by all acts, decrees and official regulations on environmental protection in all our operations; we aim to ensure that all our subcontractors do likewise. We work closely with our suppliers in seeking environmentally sound solutions.
4. We regularly review the substance and practice of our environmental policy in the light of our environmental management system, setting new environmental goals and targets annually. We regularly inform our staff and other affiliated groups about our environmental concerns, and make sure that our environmental policy is available to the public.
5. Our environmental management system, certified to ISO 14001, is the tool for carrying out our environmental policy. The line organisation, assisted by the environmental organisation, is responsible for ensuring that we fulfil our obligations with respect to environmental protection. In raising and maintaining the environmental awareness of our staff, we assign high priority to training.