Press Release

For immediate release

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**Take care of your WEEE or face hefty fines**

**As National Recycling Week (12th – 18th September) takes place in the UK, CEF in partnership with Electrical Waste, is urging installers to be clear on their obligations regarding electrical waste or risk a hefty fine or even imprisonment.**

Although the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive was re-cast in 2014, awareness of the regulations and how to comply is still very patchy. This means installers who are not compliant put themselves and their customers at risk. The government has set aside an additional £4.2m to tackle waste crime, so enforcement is becoming a reality for installers up and down the country.

Shaun Donaghey, Group Operations Director for Electrical Waste says: “Every year an estimated two million tonnes of WEEE is discarded in the UK – the majority of which is toxic and can have a long term impact on the environment and health. In addition, prosecutions are on the increase for companies who incorrectly dispose of their WEEE. Our message is therefore clear – regardless of whether your company is large or small, you need to act now to ensure you are WEEE compliant; doing nothing is no longer an option.”

CEF is the only electrical wholesale organisation in the UK to have their own electrical waste management business offering installers a one-stop recycling service and full compliance with all current legislation.

Shaun continues: “Our service is unique and covers everything covered in the WEEE Directive in a single solution – which is basically everything with a plug or battery and includes fluorescent lamps and tubes; high-intensity discharge (HID) lamps and compact fluorescent lamps. We are also the only recycler in the UK able to process LED lamps.”

Every CEF branch offers a handy local drop off point for waste, or for larger jobs CEF can provide compliant containers on-site with a nationwide collection service which covers every postcode in the UK. All of the necessary paperwork is also covered to ensure that the audit trail is complete and more importantly to ensure that installers are 100% compliant with the law.

Shaun concludes: “In 2015 alone there were over 200 prosecutions issued by the Environment Agency against businesses and individuals for illegal waste activities with fines totalling in excess of £3 million. Installers need to be aware that if they don’t dispose of their WEEE correctly they could become part of this statistic. Finding a solution is therefore critical, but compliance doesn’t need to be difficult – in fact it is something that can be taken care of next time you are down at your local CEF branch.”

For further details, visit: [cef.co.uk](http://www.cef.co.uk)/electricalwaste

To keep up to date with news from City Electrical Factors, follow us on Twitter on [twitter.com/cefonline](https://twitter.com/cefonline)

**Editor’s Notes**

CEF is the expert supplier of electrical products and services for professional buyers and installers all over the UK. CEF offer the largest range of products including leading brands and value alternatives, alongside specialist knowhow, friendly advice and support that’s the best in the industry.

Established in 1951, privately owned City Electrical Factors has a UK national network of 390 branches and the business now extends to the USA, Canada, Ireland, Spain and Australia. Customers can also place online orders up until 8pm for next day delivery at **cef.co.uk** with access to more than 30,000 products from almost 300 leading suppliers.

Electrical Waste is a wholly owned subsidiary of CEF and uniquely provides a one-stop solution for all areas of WEEE waste management and recycling.

To find out more about CEF go to: [cef.co.uk/](http://www.cef.co.uk/)

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