Defining WEEE Markings

EN 50419:2005 clarifies the markings required for electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) under the EU Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive 2002/96/EC. All EEE placed on the EU market after 13 August 2005 will have to bear these markings as follows:

• A unique identification of the producer¹.

Brand name, trademark, company registration number or other suitable means of identification, and shall be registered with each Member State in which the EEE is placed on the market, per Article 12(1) of the WEEE Directive.

- Date marking:
 - Of manufacture/placing the product on the market (after 13 August 2005). Of
 - A solid bar², added beneath the crossed wheelie bin symbol already required by Article 10(3) of the WEEE Directive.

Article 11(2) of the WEEE Directive.

• These markings shall be accessible, durable, legible and indelible.

In the absence of a durability test in the product's standard(s), these markings shall remain legible and not easily removed or show curling after rubbing for 15 s with a cloth soaked in water, then rubbing for another 15 s with a cloth soaked in petroleum spirit (e.g. hexane).

Markings merely printed on plain paper labels, without a protective coating, are likely to be obliterated by such rubbing and fail.

- If the size, functionality or other characteristics of the product prevent these markings being applied, they shall be applied:
 - On a flag attached to the fixed supply cord (if any), and
 - In the operating instructions, and
 - Warranty of the product, where supplied.

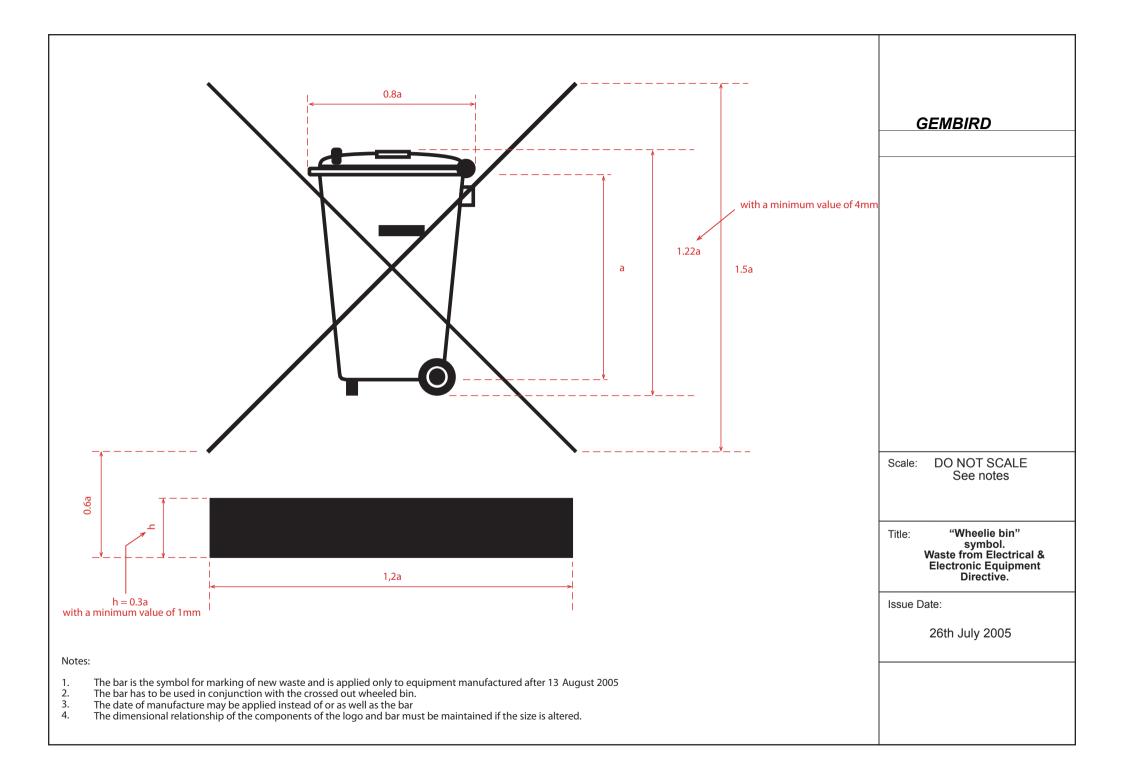
Only in the absence of the above options:

o On the packaging.

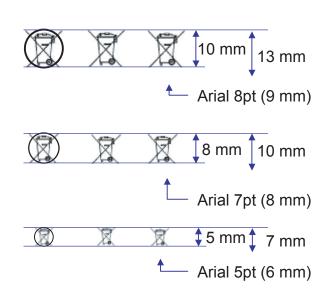
The design of the crossed wheelie bin symbol has been edited slightly to match that currently used for batteries as defined by figure 2 of EN 61429/A11, with the main changes highlighted overleaf.

¹ Defined under the WEEE Directive, as the manufacturer, own-brander (e.g. retailers selling products under their own brand), importer or exporter.

² No colour is specified for the crossed wheelie bin or solid bar, but they should be clearly legible, contrasting in colour and/or relief/engraving as appropriate.



Symbol size and legibility



 Perceptibility of wheelie bin is limited by minimum size of 5 mm x 5 mm (Battery directive)

Legibility under difficult reading conditions (DIN 1450)

Reading distance
E [m]
0,3
0,36
0,42
0,48
0,6
0,72
0,84