

Rare Earth Element Restriction

Knowles Precision Devices (KPD) is a division of Knowles Corporation focusing on production of a wide variety of highly engineered High Reliability, High Temperature, High Performance and High Frequency Multilayer, Single Layer, Precision Variable Capacitors, EMI Filters and Microwave Devices including RF Filters, Splitters and Couplers for use in critical applications in military, medical, electric vehicle, and 5G market segments.

As a Specialty Component manufacturer committed to innovation, we choose to take on the complex challenges; our solutions can commonly necessitate functional Rare Earth Elements.

Rare Earth Elements (REEs) consist of 17 metallic elements that have unique characteristics, such as high heat resistance, strong magnetism, high electrical conductivity, and high luster. These functional properties make REEs well suited for use in ceramics, glasses, metals and alloys for the manufacture of a variety of commercial, industrial and military electronic products. REEs are actually relatively abundant in the earth's crust, however with very small concentrations and extremely problematic processing they are difficult to be mined and separated economically. Thus, China has become a major low-cost producer and exporter of REEs.

Knowles Precision Devices recognizes the importance of maintaining a close working relationship with our material suppliers including those suppliers of raw fundamental materials that contain REEs. Supplier performance is monitored and reviewed using auditing tools such as scorecards, Checklists, and KPI's including contingency stock. Supplier business management systems include material management with a continuity plan ensuring their ability to consistently deliver product and thus a continual supply of these fundamental materials.



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