
For consumer products not regulated by specific legislation (exist for toys, electrical products, machinery, foodstuffs, cosmetics etc.)
- Product safety requirements

For (nearly) all consumer products:
- Safety management requirements for producers and distributors
- Market surveillance obligations for Member States
- RAPEX-system

Guidance document on SANCO website:
http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/cons_safe/prod_safe/other_th/plangtukun.htm
**Notification duty for producers and distributors**

- Knowing or ought to know product placed on the market poses risk to the consumer
- Notify all Member States where the product has been placed on the market
- Exceptions, form and guidance in Guidelines published on DG SANCO website.
- IT application for notifications available autumn 2006

Guidance document on SANCO website:

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**Developments on product safety in the EU**

**Follow-up actions on community level:**

- Control of transposition
- New RAPEX-system
- Network set-up
- Consultations on standards and consumer participation
- Guidance documents
- Better transparency

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**Developments on product safety in the EU**

**Decisions on new obligatory requirements**

- CR-lighters
Rapid Alerts (RAPEX) in 2005

- Notifications from Member States on measures ordered by authorities or voluntary measures by business concerning consumer products causing a serious risk.
- Excludes: foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals, medical devices.

Link: Overviews of RAPEX notifications:
http://ec.europa.eu/comm/dgs/health_consumer/dyna/rapex/rapex_archives.cfm

Developments on product safety in the EU

RAPEX notifications
2002 - 2005
Categories of products notified under Article 12
(1st January - 31th August 2006)

- Lighting equipments: 8%
- Motor vehicles: 14%
- Electric appliances: 21%
- Toys: 23%

Origin of the products notified under Article 12
(1st January - 31th August 2006)

- Unknown: 14%
- EU 25 & EFTA/EEA countries: 23%
- China (incl. Hong Kong): 50%

Origin of the products notified under Article 12 in EU 25 & EFTA/EEA and Acceding countries
(1st January - 31th August 2006)

- Germany: 30
- Italy: 28
- United Kingdom: 21
- Spain: 15
- France: 11
- The Netherlands: 8
- Sweden: 4
- Czech Republic: 3
- Switzerland: 2
- Austria: 1
- Greece: 1
- Belgium: 1
- Romania: 1
- Portugal: 1
- Finland: 1
Article 12 notifications by Member States
(1st January - 31st August 2006)

We have taken account only of notifications validated by the Commission and consequently transmitted to Member States.

Developments on product safety in the EU

Member States co-operation
- Network
- Joint actions
- IT-systems for communication between Member States - ICSMS
- Best practice market surveillance project - PROSAFE
International co-operation
- USA - CPSC
- China - AQSIQ
- ICPSC
- Follow up on non compliances (RAPEX)
- Training and information for manufacturers
- Emerging risks
- International standardisation – ISO/COPOLCO

Developments on product safety in the EU

Reviews
- General principles for sector legislation (New Approach)
- Application of GPSD
- Risk assessment guidelines
- Injury data collection
- ChemRisk

Developments on product safety in the EU

The future...
- Developed enforcement co-operation and customs control
- Business monitoring and follow up
- Mandatory product specific technical requirements under GPSD
Guidance documents:

- Borderline to sectoral directives
- Business notification duty
- RAPEX operation

« Product safety in Europe – A guide to corrective action including recalls »

- Consensus document representing best practice
- Available on Commission website

http://ec.europa.eu/comm/consumers/

- Consumer safety:
  - Products and Services