

# Reporting requirements of the Directive on General Product Safety (GPSD)



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# [The General Product Safety Directive (GPSD)]

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- Applies to consumer products
- Adopted in 1992
- Revised directive applies from 15th January 2004

## Obligations for:

- Producers, importers and distributors to place only safe products on the market and to take measures to follow up dangers
- Member States to carry out surveillance and enforcement.

# [ The « added value » of the Directive ]

- It sets:
  - safety requirements for products not subject to specific legislation.
  - “safety management” requirements for producers and distributors for all products

# Post-Market safety management requirements

Producers:

- Ensure means to be informed about risks
- Register and follow up complaints
- Sample test marketed products

# [ Post Market safety management requirements ]

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Producers:

- Take appropriate action
  - Withdrawal from market
  - Warning to consumers
  - Recall from consumers

# Post Market safety management requirements

- Distributors (including retailers)
  - Monitor safety of products
  - Not supply non-complying products
  - Pass on information on risks
  - Keep and provide documentation for tracing origin of products
  - Co-operate in actions

# Guidance Document

- « Product safety in Europe – A guide to corrective action including recalls »
  - Consensus document representing best practice
  - Available on Commission website

# Member States authorities

- Surveillance and enforcement
- Encourage voluntary actions by business
- Duty for business to co-operate and inform about risky products

# Obligatory Control of Safety of Consumer Products

| Stage                             | Products Regulated by   |      |
|-----------------------------------|---|------|
|                                   | Specific Legislation  | GPSD |
| Pre-Market                        | Ex. New Approach (CE):<br>Manufact., Declaration,<br>Often notified body<br>-----<br>Ex. Pharmaceuticals:<br>Authorisation<br>-----<br>Many Products:<br>NONE | NONE |
| Placing on the Market             |   |      |
| Post Market (Market Surveillance) | Limited   | GPSD |

# [ New notification obligation ]

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Producers and/or distributors  
know or ought to know  
risks incompatible with the general  
safety requirement  
product they have placed on the  
market

# [ Who to notify? ]

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Immediately inform authorities of Member States where product has been marketed or otherwise made available.

- ✓ ICT tool under development

# [ Notification content ]

- Information enabling precise identification
  - Full description of the risk
  - Information for tracing the product
  - Actions undertaken to prevent risks
- ✓ Commission guidelines

# Objectives

- Establish dialogue between business and competent authorities
- Ensure monitoring by competent authorities
- Enable ordering of additional measures (if needed)
- Enable information exchange throughout EU

# More information:

- <http://europa.eu.int/comm/consumers/>
  - Securing consumers safety
  - Safety of products