

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



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[The General Product Safety Directive (GPSD)]

- 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

Obligatory Control of Safety of Consumer Products

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

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]

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

[New notification obligation]

- 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

Notification criteria

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?]

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

[More information:]

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