

WTO TBT NOTIFICATIONS BULLETIN

A Weekly Publication of the Bureau of Philippine Standards (BPS) of the
Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)

BUREAU OF PHILIPPINE STANDARDS

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This publication seeks to provide cohesive information in a weekly basis on the foreign notifications of the WTO members under the TBT agreement on their proposed technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures.

Philippine exporters and relevant stakeholders are invited to review the proposed regulations. Comments that will be received by the BPS will be transmitted to the governments concerned for their consideration.

IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

Notifications on Chemicals, Domestic and Commercial Equipment, Environment, Health Protection and Safety, Health Care Technology, Telecommunications, Audio and Video Engineering etc. from the European Union, Japan, Peru, Switzerland, the United States of America and other countries are listed.

We would like to hear from you. For any questions, suggestions or requests for full text of notified regulations, please contact us at bps@dti.gov.ph

We are glad to be of service to you!

List of WTO TBT NOTIFICATIONS (06 - 12 May 2017)

Product Sector	Country	Date Notified	TBT Notification Symbol	Product Coverage / Title	Final Date for Comments
CHEMICALS					
SURFACE ACTIVE AGENTS	COLOMBIA	09/05/2017	G/TBT/N/COL/214/Add.2	Detergents and soaps - Addendum <i>The Republic of Colombia hereby advises that Articles 10 and 14 of Resolution No. 689 of 3 May 2016 of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development "Adopting the Technical Regulation establishing the maximum levels of phosphorus and the biodegradability of surfactants in detergents and soaps, and introducing other provisions", notified on 12 May 2016 by the World Trade Organization in document G/TBT/N/COL/214/Add.1 , have been amended pursuant to Resolution No. 837 of 4 May 2017.</i>	—
CIVIL ENGINEERING					
CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAY	SWITZERLAND	11/05/2017	G/TBT/N/CHE/219	Cableway installations designed to carry persons <i>The notified revision of the Ordinance on cableway installations designed to carry persons is part of a package of revisions harmonizing three Swiss ordinances with technical regulations of Switzerland's main trading partners.</i>	31 August 2017

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				<p>It is in line with the "New Legislative Framework" of the European Union and constitutes an adaptation to the relevant EU-legislation (Regulation (EU) 2016/424 on cableway installations and repealing Directive 2000/9/EC).</p> <p>The notified adaptation of the Swiss legislation does not contain any new technical requirements and continues to declare the applicable essential requirements of the EU-legislation in Switzerland.</p>	
DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL EQUIPMENT, ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS					
DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL HEATING APPLIANCES	SWITZERLAND	09/05/2017	G/TBT/N/CHE/217/Corr.1	<p>Gas appliances - Corrigendum</p> <p>The Swiss TBT Notification on 'gas appliances' (notified to the WTO TBT Committee on 5 May 2017) contains in section "6. Description of content", a formal mistake: 'Draft of the Ordinance of the Swiss Federal Council on the safety of personal protective equipment' should be replaced by 'Draft of the Ordinance of the Swiss Federal Council on the safety of gas appliances'; and 'personal protective equipment' by 'gas appliances'.</p> <p>The corrected text of section "6. Description of content" should read as follows:</p> <p>The notified Draft of the Ordinance of the Swiss Federal Council on the safety of gas appliances removes the existing provisions on gas appliances from The Federal ordinance of 19 May 2010 on Product Safety (RS 930.111) and brings them into a new ordinance.</p> <p>The notified Draft is part of a package of revisions harmonizing three Swiss ordinances with technical regulations of Switzerland's main trading partners. It is in line with the "New Legislative Framework" of the European Union.</p> <p>The proposal harmonizes definitions throughout the Swiss legislation, clarifies obligations of manufacturers, authorized representatives and introduces obligations for importers and distributors. The proposal also defines requirements for conformity assessment bodies to guarantee a consistent level of quality for conformity assessment procedures.</p>	—
DOMESTIC REFRIGERATING APPLIANCES	PANAMA	11/05/2017	G/TBT/N/PAN/92/Add.1	<p>Electric household refrigerators and freezers - Addendum</p> <p>The full text of the DGNTI-COPANIT Technical Regulation 105-2017. Energetic efficiency - Household refrigerators and freezers are available at: https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2017/TBT/PAN/17_2175_00_s.pdf</p>	—
COOKWARE, CUTLERY AND FLATWARE	THE SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORY OF TAIWAN, PENGHU, KINMEN AND MATSU	08/05/2017	G/TBT/N/TPKM/271	<p>Pressure cookers for domestic use</p> <p>Aiming to enhance consumer protection, the BSMI proposes to revise the current inspection standards of pressure cookers for domestic use by expanding the scope to cover those with inside volume less than 25 liters (the current scope being less than 10 liters).</p> <p>The conformity assessment procedure for pressure cookers for domestic use subject to this notified measure remains the same, i.e. Registration of Product Certification (RPC) or Batch-by-Batch Inspection (BBI).</p>	60 days from notification

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ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING					
LAMPS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT	JAPAN	09/05/2017	G/TBT/N/JPN/558	Light bulbs and lighting equipment <i>Under the Act on the Rational Use of Energy, the new energy efficiency standards are established for light bulbs and lighting equipment in the aim of improvement of their energy saving performance. The product scope, the measurement method of energy consumption efficiency, standard method and labelling requirement and so on will be established.</i>	60 days from notification
ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH PROTECTION AND SAFETY					
PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT	SWITZERLAND	09/05/2017	G/TBT/N/CHE/218	Personal protective equipment PPE <i>The notified Draft of the Ordinance of the Swiss Federal Council on the safety of personal protective equipment removes the existing provisions on personal protective equipment from The Federal ordinance of 19 May 2010 on Product Safety (RS 930.111) and brings them into a new ordinance. The notified Draft is part of a package of revisions harmonizing three Swiss ordinances with technical regulations of Switzerland's main trading partners. It is in line with the "New Legislative Framework" of the European Union. The proposal harmonizes definitions throughout the Swiss legislation, clarifies obligations of manufacturers, authorized representatives and introduces obligations for importers and distributors. The proposal also defines requirements for conformity assessment bodies to guarantee a consistent level of quality for conformity assessment procedures.</i>	60 days from notification
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE	JAPAN	08/05/2017	G/TBT/N/JPN/557	Chemical substances <i>The Enforcement Order of Industrial Safety and Health Act and related ordinances are to be partially amended to place obligations on the business operators relating to the 10 substances.</i>	15 June 2017
AIR QUALITY	UNITED STATES	08/05/2017	G/TBT/N/USA/1089/Add.1	Diesel particulate filters - Addendum <i>Adopts rules regarding aftermarket parts and incorporates by reference the document California Evaluation Procedure for New Aftermarket Diesel Particulate Filters Intended as Modified Parts for 2007 through 2009 Model Year On-Road Heavy-Duty Diesel Engines.</i>	—
FOOD AND BEVERAGES					
PREPACKAGED AND PREPARED FOODS	UNITED STATES	08/05/2017	G/TBT/N/USA/621/Add.6	Food - Addendum <i>The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or we) is extending the compliance date for the final rule requiring disclosure of certain nutrition information for standard menu items in certain restaurants and retail food establishments. In the Federal Register of 30 December 2016, we stated that the compliance date for the final rule would be 5 May 2017. We are extending the compliance date to 7 May 2018. We are taking this action to enable us to consider how we might further reduce the regulatory burden or increase flexibility while continuing to achieve our regulatory objectives, in keeping with the Administration's policies.</i>	03 July 2017

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HEALTH CARE TECHNOLOGY					
PHARMACEUTICS	CANADA	08/05/2017	G/TBT/N/CAN/525	<p>Drug products, medical equipment, pharmaceuticals</p> <p><i>The Government of Canada is committed to making treatment options available to patients who require them in situations where this is an urgent public health need, including the current the opioid crisis. The Government is taking action in a number of areas to address the impacts of problematic substance use, including supporting better treatment options for patients.</i></p> <p><i>To help respond to this need, Health Canada is proposing to allow the importation and use of medications that have been authorized for sale in the United States, the European Union or Switzerland, but are not yet authorized in Canada.</i></p> <p><i>Once this process is implemented, the most immediate need is expected to be for drugs to treat opioid use disorder (addiction); however, drugs for other urgent public health needs (e.g., pandemics) could also be approved for importation through this new process.</i></p> <p><i>Health Canada will work with provincial, territorial and federal Chief Medical Officers of Health ("public health officials") to explain the process for requesting access to a drug. To access a drug through this new process, public health officials would send a notification to Health Canada and provide key information on the drug, the urgent public health need, and how the drug is expected to help those in need in their jurisdiction. Once approved, the name and other details of the drug, such as the countries from which the drug could be imported, would be published on Health Canada's website.</i></p> <p><i>The drug would remain active on the list for one year, after which it would be removed unless Health Canada received a request for continued access. As with any drug sold in Canada, Health Canada would be able to issue a recall or take other necessary actions to protect the health and safety of Canadians should a safety concern arise.</i></p>	07 May 2017
PHARMACEUTICS	PERU	08/05/2017	G/TBT/N/PER/92	<p>Electric household refrigerators and freezers - Addendum</p> <p><i>The full text of the DGNTI-COPANIT Technical Regulation 105-2017. Energetic efficiency - Household refrigerators and freezers are available at: https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2017/TBT/PAN/17_2175_00_s.pdf</i></p>	—
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT	PERU	08/05/2017	G/TBT/N/PER/93	<p>Medical devices</p> <p><i>The aims of the notified draft Regulation are as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• to establish the rules governing the classification of medical devices by risk level, pursuant to Article 6.2 of Law No. 29459 (Law on pharmaceutical products, medical devices and sanitary products), for sanitary registration purposes;</i> <i>• to establish the essential principles of safety and performance to be respected by the manufacturers of medical devices in order to demonstrate that such products are safe and perform in accordance with the manufacturer's intended end use.</i> 	02 August 2017

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METALLURGY					
STEELS FOR PRESSURE PURPOSES	ARMENIA	10/05/2017	G/TBT/N/ARM/80	Pressure equipment <i>Exclusion of pipelines having the nominal diameter of more than 25 mm. and the maximum allowable operating pressure of above 0.05MPa from the scope of the technical regulation</i>	19 June 2017
SERVICES, COMPANY ORGANIZATION, MANAGEMENT AND QUALITY, ADMINISTRATION, TRANSPORT AND SOCIOLOGY					
ROAD TRANSPORT	OMAN	09/05/2017	G/TBT/N/OMN/303	Vehicles <i>Traffic rules to facilitate international traffic and increase safety</i>	60 days from notification
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, AUDIO AND VIDEO ENGINEERING					
AUDIO, VIDEO AND AUDIOVISUAL ENGINEERING	BRAZIL	08/05/2017	G/TBT/N/BRA/560/Add.5	Television - Addendum <i>This addendum aims at informing the approval of the adjustments to the Conformity Assessment Requirements for televisions (with tubes cathode ray (kinescopes), plasma screen, LCD panels and LED Monitors, etc.), set by Ordinance 89, 2 May 2017, rewording some items of the Ordinance 563/2014, previously notified under the document G/TBT/N/BRA/560/Add.1, both issued by National Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology - Inmetro, considering the difficulties faced by televisions suppliers. It revokes Ordinance 267/2008 and Ordinance 85/2009 on 1 October 2018, as well as Ordinance 286/2016 as from the publication date of this Ordinance 89/2017. Furthermore it includes article 4A in Ordinance 563/2014, keeping the remaining provisions unchanged.</i>	—
AUDIO, VIDEO AND AUDIOVISUAL ENGINEERING	CHILE	12/05/2017	G/TBT/N/CHL/304/Add.2	Televisions - Addendum <i>The Republic of Chile hereby informs that in relation to the Technical Specifications for the energy efficiency label for televisions, of the Ministry of Energy, notified on 2 June of 2015, under the symbol G / TBT / N / CHL / 304, it is reported that Resolution No. 17 exemption, on May 3, 2017, by means of which a clarification is made to numeral V., of the point 8.1 "Fields of the label", of exempt resolution N° 47, of December 30, 2015, of the Ministry of Energy, which approved the final technical specifications of the energy efficiency for televisions.</i>	—
RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS	EUROPEAN UNION	09/05/2017	G/TBT/N/EU/484	Short-range devices <i>This draft Commission Implementing Decision requires Member States to designate and make available on a non-exclusive, non-interference and non-protected basis the frequency bands for the types of short-range devices, subject to the specific conditions and by the implementation deadline, as laid down in the technical annex.</i>	60 days from notification