

# 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

A total of 29 notifications on Chemicals, Electrical Engineering, Environment, Health Protection and Safety, Food and Beverages, and Metallurgy etc. from Brazil, France, Republic of Korea, Tanzania, 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](mailto:bps@dti.gov.ph)

We are glad to be of service to you!

## List of WTO TBT NOTIFICATIONS (14 - 20 October 2017)

Product Sector	Country	Date Notified	TBT Notification Symbol	Product Coverage / Title	Final Date for Comments
<b>CHEMICALS</b>					
SURFACE ACTIVE AGENTS	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	16/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/KOR/730</a>	Cleansing and hygiene products  <i>The purpose of this Enforcement Decree is to provide for matters delegated by the Cleansing &amp; Hygiene Products Control Act and matters necessary for the enforcement thereof. The proposed enactment of "Enforcement Decree of Cleansing &amp; Hygiene Products Control Act" includes the following provisions:</i> (a) The scope of Cleansing & Hygiene product shall be expanded to include disposable panty liner and compressed tissue and dry wipe intended for washing hands. (however, disposable panty liner regulated as quasi-drug under the Article 2.7 (a) of the Pharmaceutical Affairs Act shall not be regulated as Cleansing & Hygiene product) (b) The criteria for calculation of penalty surcharges imposed pursuant to the main sentence of Article 22(1) of the Act (c) An official announcement required under Article 23 of the Act shall be made by means of posting the following matters on the Internet web site of the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety or in a general daily newspaper distributed nationwide, registered pursuant to	15 December 2017

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				<p>Article 9(1) of the Act on the Promotion of Newspapers: Headline indicating the official announcement of an act violating the Cleansing &amp; Hygiene Products Control Act, Type of business, Name and location of the place of business and the name of the representative, Name of Cleansing &amp; Hygiene Products, Details of a violation, etc.</p> <p>(d) The criteria for imposition of administrative fines provided for in Article 34 (2) of the Act</p>	
SURFACE ACTIVE AGENTS	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	16/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/KOR/731</a>	<p>Cleansing and hygiene products</p> <p>The purpose of this Enforcement Rule is to provide for matters delegated by the Cleansing &amp; Hygiene Products Control Act and the proposed Enforcement Decree of the aforesaid Act, and matters necessary for the enforcement thereof.</p> <p>The proposed enactment of Enforcement Rule of 'Cleansing &amp; Hygiene Products Control Act' includes the following provisions:</p> <p>a) Attached table 1 of the Enforcement Rule stipulates facilities requirements for cleansing &amp; hygiene product business operator.</p> <p>b) Any person who intends to notify his/her business pursuant to Article 3(1) or 3(2) of the Act shall submit an application for business notification to competent authorities after he/she has facilities necessary for business operations. (i.e., a person who intends to start an import business should submit an application to the head of a Regional Office of Food and Drug Safety)</p> <p>c) Any person who intends to make an import declaration pursuant to Article 8(1) of the Act shall submit an import declaration of imported cleansing &amp; hygiene products regulated by the Act to the head of a Regional Office of Food and Drug Safety.</p> <p>d) Where the head of a Regional Office of Food and Drug Safety receives an import declaration of imported cleansing &amp; hygiene product, he/she shall conduct an inspection of the relevant imported cleansing &amp; hygiene products in accordance with methods of inspection prescribed in attached Table 3.</p> <p>e) Article 16(1) and 16(2) require business operators to complete three or four hours of mandatory hygiene education every year.</p> <p>f) Article 17(1) stipulates the following information is to be included in the label: the letter "cleansing &amp; hygiene products", the name of product, the name and location of the business, net weight of product, date of manufacture, ingredients list, etc.</p> <p>g) Application, amendment, inspection fees pursuant to the Article 30 of the Act shall be as specified in attached Table 8.</p>	15 December 2017
BASES	TANZANIA	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/TZA/118</a>	<p>Sodium hydroxide</p> <p>This draft Tanzania Standard specifies requirements, sampling and methods of tests for sodium hydroxide suitable for use in rayon, cosmetic, textile, soap, paper and other similar industries.</p> <p>The specification does not apply to sodium hydroxide used for pharmaceutical, photographic or food processing purposes.</p>	60 days from notification

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BASES	TANZANIA	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/TZA/119</a>	Sodium hydroxide (caustic soda)  <i>This Draft Tanzania Standard specifies a code of safety concerning hazards relating to sodium hydroxide. It describes the properties and essential information for the safe handling and use of sodium hydroxide.</i>	60 days from notification
<b>DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL EQUIPMENT, ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS</b>					
DOMESTIC REFRIGERATING APPLIANCES	BRAZIL	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/BRA/752</a>	Refrigerators and freezers  <i>Draft inter-ministerial regulation proposing a specific regulation and a target program for refrigerators and freezers setting maximum levels of energy consumption or energy efficiency of machines and appliances manufactured or marketed in the country on the basis of relevant technical indicators.</i>	27 November 2017
DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL HEATING APPLIANCES	FRANCE	17/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/FRA/182</a>	Domestic gas installations  <i>Safety requirements for domestic gas installations</i>	60 days from the date of notification
<b>ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING</b>					
GENERATING SETS	BRAZIL	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/BRA/751</a>	Electric converters  <i>Draft inter-ministerial regulation proposing a specific regulation and a target program for electric converters setting maximum levels of energy consumption or energy efficiency of machines and appliances manufactured or marketed in the country on the basis of relevant technical indicators.</i>	27 November 2017
ALKALINE SECONDARY CELLS AND BATTERIES	THAILAND	20/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/THA/502</a>	Portable power bank  <i>The Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI) has proposed to enforce TIS 2879-25xx (20xx) Portable Power Bank - Safety Requirements as a mandatory standard. The standard covers the safety requirements of portable power bank and any portable energy-storage device containing secondary batteries with charging circuitry via DC output of up to 6 volts, at least one charging port. The standard also includes power bank that supports the external voltage supply for quick charging for electric and electronic devices. In addition, it applies to power bank under intended use and reasonably foreseeable misuse. Excluded from the scope of this standard are: - Any internal battery device that is capable of powering other devices which its main function is not for charging such as portable loudspeaker and laptop - Power bank charged via DC output exceeding 6 volts (e.g. car jump starter) - Uninterruptible power supply (UPS) systems The Standard specifies safety requirements, testing, marking and minimum instruction.</i>	60 days from notification
WIRES	TANZANIA	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/TZA/115</a>	Wire cloth  <i>This draft standard lays down the minimum requirements of material, dimensions and construction of woven wire cloth used for general purposes. This draft standard does not cover wire cloth used for test sieves</i>	60 days from notification

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<b>ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH PROTECTION AND SAFETY</b>					
PROTECTION AGAINST FIRE	FRANCE	17/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/FRA/180</a>	<p>Fire safety of PS type establishments (covered car parks)</p> <p><i>The purpose of this order is to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to adapt the fire protection measures to new uses and new technologies within covered parking lots open to the public in order to including securing relief operations</li> <li>- to meet the requirements of regulatory simplification</li> </ul>	60 days from the date of notification
PROTECTION AGAINST FIRE	FRANCE	17/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/FRA/181</a>	<p>Fire safety of M-type establishments (shops and shopping centers)</p> <p><i>The purpose of this Order is to reinstate the obligations relating to the defenses against fire in type 1, 2 and 3 establishments of type M whose area of the sales premises does not exceed 3000 square meters.</i></p>	60 days from the date of notification
DOMESTIC SAFETY	UNITED STATES	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/USA/1308</a>	<p>Wood in children's products</p> <p><i>The Consumer Product Safety Commission (Commission, or CPSC) is proposing a rule to determine that certain untreated and unfinished engineered wood products (EWPs), specifically, particleboard, hardwood plywood, and medium-density fiberboard, made from virgin wood or pre-consumer waste wood would not contain lead, the ASTM F963 elements, or specified phthalates that exceed the limits set forth under the CPSC's statutes for children's products, children's toys, and child care articles. Based on these proposed determinations, the specified EWPs would not be required to have third party testing for compliance with the requirements for lead, ASTM F963 elements, or phthalates for children's products, children's toys, and child care articles.</i></p>	27 December 2017
<b>FLUID SYSTEMS AND COMPONENTS FOR GENERAL USE</b>					
VENTILATORS, FANS, AIR-CONDITIONERS	BRAZIL	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/BRA/750</a>	<p>Air conditioners</p> <p><i>Draft inter-ministerial regulation proposing a specific regulation and a target program for air conditioners setting maximum levels of energy consumption or energy efficiency of machines and appliances manufactured or marketed in the country on the basis of relevant technical indicators.</i></p>	27 November 2017
VENTILATORS, FANS, AIR-CONDITIONERS	MEXICO	16/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/MEX/375</a>	<p>Condensing and evaporator units for refrigeration purposes</p> <p><i>The notified draft Mexican Official Standard applies to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Condensing units for refrigeration purposes that are made for installation outdoors or indoors, with a cooling output of between 746 W (2,547 BTU/h) and 40,000 W (136,607 BTU/h) at average temperature and up to 13,000 W (44,397 BTU/h) at low temperature.</li> <li>(b) Low-profile, direct expansion evaporator units for refrigeration purposes intended to operate with a refrigerant in humid and/or dry conditions, with a nominal cooling capacity of between 0.3 kW and 12.0 kW.</li> </ul>	Sixty calendar days after publication in the Official Journal (9 October 2017)

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<b>FOOD AND BEVERAGES</b>					
PREPACKAGED AND PREPARED FOODS	ARGENTINA	16/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/ARG/252/Add.4</a>	<p>Packaged food products - Addendum</p> <p>Please be advised of the adoption, pursuant to Joint Resolution No. 11-E/2017 of the Secretariat of Health Policy, Regulation and Institutions and the Secretariat for Value Added, of the amendment to Article 235 septies of Chapter V ("Food labelling and advertising regulations") of the Argentine Food Code (CAA) on the declaration of allergens, the draft version of which was notified in document G/TBT/N/ARG/252/Add.3.</p> <p>The adjustment period is set at 365 calendar days as from 17 October 2017.</p>	—
FOOD PRODUCTS IN GENERAL	ARGENTINA	16/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/ARG/296/Add.2</a>	<p>Irradiated foods - Addendum</p> <p>Please be advised of the adoption, pursuant to Joint Resolution No. 13-E/2017 of the Secretariat of Health Policy, Regulation and Institutions and the Secretariat for Value Added, of the amendment to Article 174 on the preservation and treatment of conserved or preserved foods, in Chapter III on food products, of the Argentine Food Code, the draft version of which was notified in documents G/TBT/N/ARG/296 and Addendum No. 1 thereto.</p>	—
PROCESSES IN THE FOOD INDUSTRY	BOLIVIA	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/BOL/3/Add.3</a>	<p>Food Products - Addendum</p> <p>The Plurinational State of Bolivia announces in relation to the Draft Technical Regulation "Labeling of Foods and Products Destined for Human Consumption, Contain or Genetically Modified Organisms", notified by document G / TBT / N / BOL / 3 of 22 October 2015, which updated Genetically Modified Organisms, through an Administrative Resolution, issued by the Ministry of Environment and Water.</p>	—
FOOD PRODUCTS IN GENERAL	INDIA	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/IND/63</a>	<p>Organic food</p> <p>Draft Food Safety and Standards (Organic Foods) Regulations, 2017 detailing the procedure for Organic Food Labelling and Certification.</p>	15 days from notification
FOOD PRODUCTS IN GENERAL	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	17/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/KOR/732</a>	<p>Food</p> <p>The main proposed amendments of the "Labelling Standards for Foods" is as the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include pine nut as an allergen required to be stated on label and establish a guidance on food allergen labelling exemption for single-ingredient food.</li> <li>• Require to put "handle with care" symbol on the package of food additives which may cause food safety accidents.</li> <li>• Require to state disclaimer "serving suggestion" if any picture on the package does not exactly match the food that is in the package.</li> <li>• If other parts of ginseng (e.g.: leaf, berry, or etc.) other than ginseng root are used, the exact ingredients are required to be stated on label to prevent consumer's misunderstanding.</li> <li>• Require to put a disclaimer "recommends moderate consumption of candy" on label of strong acidic candies.</li> </ul>	60 days from notification

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delete labelling exemption conditions for unprocessed food wrapped in transparent plastic and establish labelling exemption conditions for unprocessed food by small-scale farmers.</li> <li>Require to state food additives on the label of reconstituted juices bear 100% juice declaration.</li> <li>Names and percentages of ingredients are required to be stated on the principal display panel if any picture on the package depicts ingredients of food or states the name of ingredients.</li> </ul>	
CEREALS, PULSES AND DERIVED PRODUCTS	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	17/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/KOR/733</a>	<p>Food additives - Sodium</p> <p>The main proposed amendments of the "Labelling standard and method for relative comparison of Sodium content" is as the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The QR code indication is limited to the case where the wrapping paper area is 50cm<sup>2</sup> or less</li> </ul>	60 days from notification
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	MEXICO	16/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/MEX/302/Add.2</a>	<p>Alcoholic beverages - Addendum</p> <p>Replies to the comments received regarding draft Mexican Official Standard PROY-NOM-199-SCFI-2015 "Alcoholic beverages - Designations, physico-chemical specifications, commercial information and test methods", published in the Mexican Official Journal on 29 February 2016</p>	—
BEVERAGES	UNITED STATES	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/USA/1157/Add.2</a>	<p>Wine - Addendum</p> <p>The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) is reopening for an additional 90 days the comment period for Notice No. 160, Proposed Revisions to Wine Labeling and Recordkeeping Requirements, a notice of proposed rulemaking published in the Federal Register on 22 June 2016. In Notice No. 160, TTB proposed to amend its labeling and recordkeeping regulations in 27 CFR part 24 to provide that any standard grape wine containing 7 percent or more alcohol by volume that is covered by a certificate of exemption from label approval may be labeled with a varietal (grape type) designation, a type designation of varietal significance, a vintage date, or an appellation of origin only if the wine is labeled in compliance with the standards set forth in the appropriate sections of 27 CFR part 4 for that label information. TTB also proposed to amend its part 4 wine labeling regulations to include a reference to the new part 24 requirement. TTB is reopening the comment period a second time in response to requests from a number of commenters. In addition, TTB is also soliciting comments on alternative proposals put forth by commenters during the previous public comment periods for Notice No. 160.</p>	09 January 2018
BEVERAGES	UNITED STATES	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/USA/1225/Add.1</a>	<p>Wine labelling - Addendum</p> <p>The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau is reopening for an additional 60 days the comment period for Notice No. 165, Proposed Addition of New Grape Variety Names for American Wines, a notice of proposed rulemaking published in the Federal Register on 17 November 2016. TTB is taking this action in response to requests from several wine industry members and trade associations.</p>	11 December 2017



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BEVERAGES	UNITED STATES	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/USA/1230/Add.1</a>	Wine - Addendum  <i>The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) is reopening for an additional 90 days the comment period for Notice No. 164, Wine Treating Materials and Related Regulations, a notice of proposed rulemaking published in the Federal Register on 22 November 2016. TTB is taking this action in response to requests from wine industry members and trade associations.</i>	09 January 2018
<b>METALLURGY</b>					
STEELS FOR REINFORCEMENT OF CONCRETE	COLOMBIA	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/COL/222/Add.2</a>	Low Alloy Corrugated Bars - Addendum  <i>The Republic of Colombia communicates with regard to the draft Resolution of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism "By which the Technical Regulation applicable to bars low-alloy corrugations for concrete reinforcement in earthquake-resistant constructions that manufactured, imported or marketed in Colombia ", notified on January 11, 2017 by the World Trade Organization through the document identified under the G / TBT / N / COL / 222, that this was issued on October 4, 2017, through Resolution No. 1856 of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, which will enter into force on April 12, 2018.</i>	—
IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTS IN GENERAL	THAILAND	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/THA/501</a>	Hot rolled steel sheet piles  <i>The Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI) has proposed to withdraw TIS 1390-2539 (1996) Hot Rolled Steel Sheet Piles, and replace it with TIS 1390 - 25xx Hot Rolled Steel Sheet Piles as a mandatory standard. This draft standard applies to hot rolled steel sheet piles for sheathing, coffering, structural foundations and other similar applications. It specifies types (according to cross sectional shape) and grades (according to yield strength), dimensions and tolerances, chemical compositions and general requirements (e.g. tensile strength, yield strength and elongation) .</i>	60 days from notification
IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTS	TANZANIA	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/TZA/114</a>	Iron and steel products  <i>This draft standard cover the requirements for commercial steel wool of different grades. The commercial steel wool shall be of the following grades, Grade 0000 (Super fine) Grade 000 (Extra fine) Grade 00 (Very fine) Grade 0 (Fine) Grade 1 (Medium) Grade 2 (Coarse) Grade 3 (Very coarse)</i>	60 days from notification
<b>ROAD VEHICLES ENGINEERING</b>					
INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES FOR ROAD VEHICLES	TANZANIA	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/TZA/117</a>	Air cleaners for internal combustion engines  <i>This draft Standard establishes and specifies uniform test procedures, conditions, equipment, and a performance report to permit the direct laboratory performance comparison of air cleaners. The basic performance characteristics of greatest interest are air flow restriction or differential pressure, dust collection efficiency, dust capacity, and oil carry-over on oil bath air cleaners.</i>	60 days from notification

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				<i>This test code therefore deals with the measurement of these parameters. This draft Standard is applicable to air cleaners used on internal combustion engines and compressors generally used in automotive and industrial applications</i>	
<b>RUBBER AND PLASTIC ENGINEERING</b>					
ROAD VEHICLE TYRES	TANZANIA	19/10/2017	<a href="#">G/TBT/N/TZA/116</a>	<p>Tyres</p> <p><i>This draft Standard specifies tyre dimensions designation and marking requirements; and load ratings. It also gives laboratory test requirements for bead unseating resistance, strength, endurance and high-speed performance for tyres primarily intended for passengers</i></p>	60 days from notification