

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 notified 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 20 notifications on Agriculture, Chemicals, Electrical Engineering, Food and Beverages, Health Care Technology etc. from the Chile, European Union, Kenya, Mexico, 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!

You can expect that, at BPS, we aim HIGH!

List of WTO TBT NOTIFICATIONS (28 April - 04 May 2018)

Product Sector	Country	Date Notified	TBT Notification Symbol	Product Coverage / Title	Final Date for Comments
AGRICULTURE					
PESTICIDES AND OTHER AGROCHEMICALS	EUROPEAN UNION	01/05/2018	G/TBT/N/EU/569	<p>Flurtamone</p> <p><i>This draft Commission Implementing Regulation provides that the approval of the active substance flurtamone is not renewed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009. Existing authorised plant protection products containing flurtamone will be withdrawn from the market. The non-approval is based on the first evaluation of the substance for use as a pesticide active substance in the EU under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009. The substance was formerly approved under Directive 91/414/EEC.</i></p> <p><i>This decision only concerns the placing on the market of this substance and does not affect the Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) for residues of the concerned pesticide.</i></p>	60 days from notification

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				<i>However, following non-approval, separate action may be taken on MRLs. Any subsequent action on MRLs will be subject to notification under the SPS procedure.</i>	
PLANT GROWING	MEXICO	01/05/2018	G/TBT/N/MEX/352/Add.2	Plant products - Addendum <i>Mexican Official Standard NOM-022-FITO-1995 "Requirements and specifications to be met by satisfying legal persons for the provision of phytosanitary treatment services" is amended and replaced by the Mexican Official Standard NOM-022-SAG / FITO-2016 "Specifications, phytosanitary criteria and procedures applicable to natural or legal persons providing phytosanitary treatment services".</i>	—
CHEMICALS					
EXPLOSIVES, PYROTECHNICS AND FIREWORKS	KENYA	30/04/2018	G/TBT/N/KEN/671	Roman candles <i>This Kenya Standard specifies requirements for the construction, performance, primary packaging and labelling of Roman candles and the corresponding test methods. It is applicable to fireworks, which are classified as Roman candles in categories 2 and 3 in KS 2443 -1.</i>	08 May 2018
PRODUCTS OF THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY	UNITED STATES	30/04/2018	G/TBT/N/USA/1357/Corr.1	Household products containing methylene chloride - Corrigendum <i>The Consumer Product Safety Commission is correcting supplemental guidance on the Labeling of Certain Household Products Containing Methylene Chloride, which appeared in the Federal Register of 21 March 2018. The document provides guidance regarding labeling to warn of acute hazards associated with paint strippers containing methylene chloride. This correction provides the appropriate link to the petition briefing package and the format of a warning label.</i>	—
CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND BUILDING					
MASONRY	KENYA	30/04/2018	G/TBT/N/KEN/670	Clay masonry units <i>This Kenya Standard specifies the characteristics and performance requirements for masonry units manufactured from clay for which the main intended uses are protected or unprotected masonry structure.</i>	19 May 2018
DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL EQUIPMENT, ENTERTAINMENT, SPORTS					
COOKWARE, CUTLERY AND FLATWARE	JAPAN	01/05/2018	G/TBT/N/JPN/596	Pressure cookers and autoclaves for home use; and lighters <i>(1) Autoclaves and Pressure cookers for household use: To add precautions for use on the product body or instruction manual.</i>	60 days from notification

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				(2) Lighters: The name of the Notifying Enterprise and the name of the Domestically Registered Conformity Inspection Body or the Overseas Registered Conformity Inspection and precautions for use should be displayed with a label on the product body itself.	
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING					
FUSES AND OTHER OVER-CURRENT PROTECTION DEVICES	CHILE	30/04/2018	G/TBT/N/CHL/440	<p>Breakers</p> <p>The notified protocol lays down the procedure for certification of product safety electric. These are air-cut circuit breakers designed for operate at 50 Hz, 60 Hz or 50/60 Hz, at a rated voltage not exceeding 440 V (between phases), rated current not exceeding 125 A and breaking capacity assigned to not more than 25 000 A. It covers unipolar, bipolar circuit-breakers, three-pole or four-pole, for domestic and similar electrical installations.</p>	60 days from the notification
LOW VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR	CHILE	30/04/2018	G/TBT/N/CHL/441	<p>Differential Switches</p> <p>The notified protocol applies to functionally differential switches independent of the supply voltage, for household and similar purposes, without built-in overcurrent protection device of rated voltage not exceeding 440 V ac and rated current not exceeding 125 A, mainly intended for protection against electric shock and operating in 50 Hz systems.</p> <p>Included in the scope of the notified document are differential switches single phase and three phase with 2, 3 and 4 poles.</p> <p>The differential switches covered by this standard are designed to operate in a environment with a pollution degree 2 and a category III overvoltage.</p>	60 days from the notification
LAMPS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT	ECUADOR	30/04/2018	G/TBT/N/ECU/308/Add.1	<p>LED Modules, Fixtures and LED Lamps - Addendum</p> <p>The Republic of Ecuador announces the cancellation of the draft Technical Regulations TEN INEN 278 "LED Modules, Luminaires and LED Lamps" which has been notified G / TBT / N / ECU / 308 of February 24, 2015. This text is therefore null and void.</p>	—
ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH PROTECTION, SAFETY					
DOMESTIC SAFETY	UNITED STATES	30/04/2018	G/TBT/N/USA/1361	<p>Volatile organic compound limits</p> <p>Amends rules to maintain the ozone air quality benefits and the benefits claimed in the State Implementation Plan that the VOC limit would achieve; provides compliance flexibility to manufacturers that would enable them to continue to offer effective products to consumers;</p>	21 May 2018

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				<i>achieves these objectives without significantly impacting compliance costs or increasing the cost of MPL products on the market.</i>	
FLUID SYSTEMS AND COMPONENTS FOR GENERAL USE					
PRESSURE VESSELS	REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA	30/04/2018	G/TBT/N/MDA/33/Add.1	Transportable pressure equipment - Addendum <i>The Republic of Moldova would like to inform WTO Members that the draft Government Decision on approval of the Technical Regulation on transportable pressure equipment" was approved on 19 December 2017. The document sets out detailed rules on transportable pressure equipment in order to improve safety and to ensure the free movement of such equipment on the market.</i>	—
FOOD AND BEVERAGES					
MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS	BRAZIL	04/05/2018	G/TBT/N/BRA/810	Refrigerated raw milk, pasteurized milk and milk type A <i>This Draft Ordinance establishes a public consultation on a Draft Technical Regulation to set the official identity and quality requirements for refrigerated raw milk, pasteurized milk and milk type A.</i>	25 June 2018
MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS IN GENERAL	NICARAGUA	30/04/2018	G/TBT/N/NIC/157/Corr.1	Matured cheeses - Corrigendum <i>Through the present corrigendum it is reported that the correct text of point 5 of the Notification G / TBT / N / NIC / 157 is as follows: 5. Title, number of pages and language (s) of the notified document: NTON 03 108–17 / RTCA 67.04.75: 17</i>	—
FRUITS, VEG-ETABLES	UNITED STATES	30/04/2018	G/TBT/N/USA/1321/Add.1	Grapefruit - Addendum <i>The Department of Agriculture (USDA) is adopting, as a final rule, without change, an interim rule implementing a recommendation from the Citrus Administrative Committee (Committee) to relax the minimum size requirements currently prescribed under the marketing order for oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, and pummelos grown in Florida and the grapefruit import regulation. The interim rule relaxed the minimum size requirement for domestic shipments and imports of grapefruit from 3 \5/16\ inches to 3 inches in diameter.</i>	—

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HEALTH CARE TECHNOLOGY					
MEDICAMENTS	ARGENTINA	30/04/2018	G/TBT/N/ARG/334	<p>Medicines for human use</p> <p><i>The notified document consists of a new guide to good practice manufacture for manufacturers, importers and exporters of human use. It replaces Annexes I to XII to Decision (Disposición) 2819/2004 and its amendments. The guide incorporates international requirements for good practice manufacture of medicinal specialties approved by the World Health Organization in 2015, the reports drawn up in the framework of the Scheme of cooperation in the field of Pharmaceutical Inspection (PIC's - PE 009-12 / 2015) and the 2017 annexes, the standards of the International Harmonization Council (ICIDH) and the standards of the Organization International Standardization Organization (ISO).</i></p>	28 May 2018
MEDICAMENTS	SWITZERLAND	02/05/2018	G/TBT/N/CHE/231	<p>Medicinal products</p> <p><i>The Ordinance on Licensing in the Medicinal Products Sector (SR 812.212.1) is being currently revised due to numerous amendments relating to the ordinary revision of the Therapeutic Products Act (TPA) adopted by Parliament on 18 March 2016 as well as to the approval and implementation of the Medicrime Convention adopted by Parliament on 29 September 2017.</i></p> <p><i>The following amendments of the abovementioned ordinance may be relevant for international trade:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>more detailed specifications with regard to the licence for the import, export and foreign trade of medicinal products</i> • <i>new licence for the activities of brokers</i> • <i>simplifications with regard to the individual import of immunological medicinal products or blood/blood products</i> • <i>new regulation concerning the import of unauthorised medicinal products in small quantities by private individuals and by health</i> 	60 days from notification
MEDICAMENTS	MEXICO	01/05/2018	G/TBT/N/MEX/405	<p>Cannabis and its derivatives</p> <p><i>The notified document consists of a regulation which describes the derivatives pharmaceutical companies and establishes the requirements governing their marketing industrial purposes. It covers the following points: seed, crop, harvest, preparation, conditioning, acquisition, possession, trade, transport in any form whatsoever distribution, employment, use, consumption and, in general, any activity</i></p>	Not applicable

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				<i>related to cannabis for medical and scientific research purposes. The regulation is mandatory application throughout the national territory.</i>	
METROLOGY AND MEASUREMENT, PHYSICAL PHENOMENA					
METROLOGY AND MEASUREMENT IN GENERAL	UNITED STATES	30/04/2018	G/TBT/N/USA/1360	<p>Commercial measuring devices</p> <p><i>The proposed rule will incorporate by reference in subdivision (a) of 1 NYCRR section 220.2 the 2018 edition of National Institute of Standards and Technology Handbook 44 (henceforth, "Handbook 44 (2018 edition)") which contains specifications, tolerances and regulations for commercial measuring devices. The 2017 edition of Handbook 44 is presently incorporated by reference. Handbook 44 (2018 edition) differs from the 2017 edition in that it contains new requirements for divisions in high-accuracy scales used in direct sales such as jewelry scales; deletes the requirement that the size of the pipe, mounted on a vehicle tank used for the delivery of petroleum products, must be set forth on the meter; amends requirements applicable to taximeters that use GPS technology; and other, non-substantive additions, amendments, and deletions. Handbook 44 (2018 edition) has been adopted or is in the process of being adopted by every state; manufacturers and users of weighing and measuring devices located in New York already, therefore, conform their operations to the provisions of this document in order to sell their products in interstate commerce.</i></p> <p><i>The proposed rule requires manufacturers and users of weighing and measuring devices to do no more than they are practically required to do presently and/or lessens certain regulatory burdens; as such, the proposed rule will not have an adverse impact upon jobs or employment opportunities.</i></p>	27 May 2018
ROAD VEHICLES ENGINEERING					
MOTORCYCLES AND MOPEDS	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	02/05/2018	G/TBT/N/KOR/762	<p>Motor vehicles</p> <p><i>The following amendments will be made:</i></p> <p><i>A. Mitigation of the minimum ground clearance and the opening direction for exhaust pipe, the material diversification of luggage compartment and glazing (Article 4, Article 5, Article 32, Article 34, Table 33): The mitigation of the minimum ground clearance reducing from 12cm to 10cm and the outlet direction of exhaust pipe increasing from 30 degree to 45 degree for vehicle longitudinal axis, the diversification of materials for luggage compartment, and the permission of plastic glazing for automotive- glazing materials.</i></p>	60 days from notification

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				<p>B. Improvement of installation regulation for additional axle and conspicuity marking (Article 13, Article 49, Table 32-2): The improvement of operation method from manual to automatic on the up and down device for the additional axle fitted a truck or special vehicle, and the mandatory installation of conspicuity marking on a truck and special vehicle exceeding GVW of 7.5 tons.</p> <p>C. Adjustment on the power tolerance of motorcycle engine and harmonization of brake system for a motorcycle (Article 63-2, Article 67, Table 5-13): The arrangement on the power tolerance of internal combustion engine and driving motor for a motorcycle, and the mandatory installation of Anti-lock Brake System (ABS) for a motorcycle with engine capacity of 125 cc over or maximum power of 11 kW over.</p> <p>D. Harmonization with UN Regulations (Article 89, Article 91, Article 92, Article 102, Table 11-3, Table 11-5, Table 14, Table 14-2): The introduction of prevention of fire risk for HEV, EV and FCEV (UN Regulation No. 34, 94, 95, 134, 135, 137), and the improvement of collision regulations, such as frontal impact, partial frontal impact and pole side impact (UN Regulation No. 94, 95, 134, 135, 137) .</p>	
COMMERCIAL VEHICLES	TAJIKISTAN	01/05/2018	G/TBT/N/TJK/6	<p>Motor vehicles</p> <p>Decree developed to prevent importation of old cars which are the main source of air pollution with the emission of approximately 344743 tons of poisonous substances per year that are harmful for human health and environment and significant rise of wastes (batteries, tires, air conditioners) from the old</p>	Not applicable