

WTO/TBT

Thematic Session on Conformity Assessment Procedures:

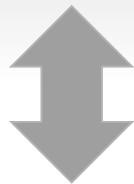
Product Accident Information -Serious Product Accident Reporting and Disclosure Scheme-

5 March 2019, WTO, Geneva

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
JAPAN

Outline of regulations for product safety in Japan

Pre-market regulation



Post market measures

4 regulations for product safety

- Electrical appliances and materials
- Town gas equipment
- LPG equipment
- General consumer products

- ✓ Sampling Test
- ✓ On-site inspection
- ✓ Serious product Accidents Reporting and Disclosure System
- ✓ Order for product recalls and withdrawals from the market

Administrative Enforcement

Order for Improvement

- Violation of the technical regulation-compliance obligations

Prohibition on Labeling (Stopping shipment and sale)

- Violation of technical regulations-compliance obligations
- Violation of the order for improvement

Hazard Prevention Order

- Products without appropriate labeling
- Products in violation of relevant standards

Outline of regulations for product safety in Japan

Pre-market regulation

4 regulations for product safety

- Electrical appliances and materials
- Town gas equipment
- LPG equipment
- General consumer products

Principle

Using international standards as a basis for technical regulations

Performance-based regulations (Electrical appliances and materials)

Conformity assessment procedures based on product category

- Self-declaration of conformity

- Third-party conformity Assessment

Registering foreign CABs as well as domestic CABs

Recognizing voluntary arrangements between laboratories/certification bodies (including International laboratory accreditation scheme)

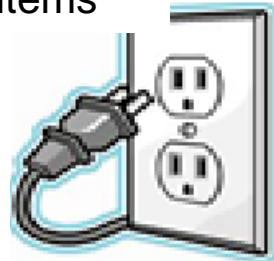
Government-to-Government MRA

Outline of regulations for product safety in Japan

Regulated Consumer Products



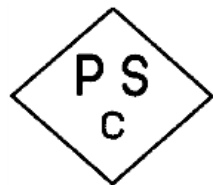
116 specified items



341 non-specified items



Regulated Consumer Products



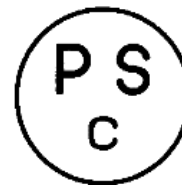
4 specified items



Laser pointer



Plastic lighter with firing rod



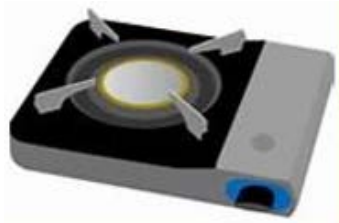
6 non-specified items

Outline of regulations for product safety in Japan

Regulated LPG Products



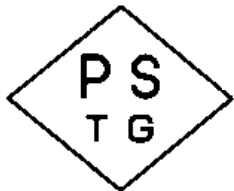
7 specified items



9 non-specified items



Regulated Gas Products



4 specified items



4 non-specified items



Post Market Measures

Post market measures

- ✓ Sampling Test
- ✓ On-site inspection
- ✓ Serious product Accidents Reporting and Disclosure System
- ✓ Order for product recalls and withdrawals from the market

Sampling Test

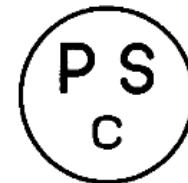
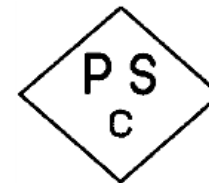
One regulated product unit purchased by METI



Sampling Test to confirm compliance with the regulation



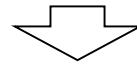
Executing Administrative Enforcement if necessary



Serious Product Accident Reporting and Disclosure System

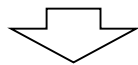
Supplier must report accidents to Government within ten days

The name & type of product, a detailed account of the accident, the quantity of the products etc.



Publication of accidents by the Government (CAA)

CAA(Consumer Affairs Agency)



Disclosure of accident information (800 cases)

METI manages and endorses the counter measures of suppliers based on the investigation results

NITE: Investigates/analyzes the Accident Cause
NITE (National Institute of Technology and Evaluation)

Serious Product Accident Reporting and Disclosure System

The research agency, NITE investigates the cause of product accidents under METI's order.

The results are widely disseminated through public information activities of NITE.

Investigation by NITE

Press release by NITE



Serious Product Accident Reporting and Disclosure System

Example of serious product related accident outcome

- Death
- Serious/fatal injury or disease for which treatment requires no less than 30 days
- Fire
- Carbon monoxide poisoning
- Physical disability/ after affects of injury

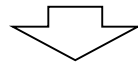
Non-Serious Product Accident Reporting to NITE

Stakeholders

Suppliers

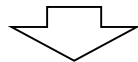
Consumer Affairs Centers

Local Fire and Police Departments



nite

(National Institute of Technology and Evaluation)

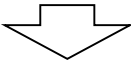


**Disclosure of accident
information (2000 cases)
quarterly**

Example of Non-Serious Product Accidents

- Near-misses
- Close-call incidents
- Injury
- Burns to humans or surroundings
- Release of smoke
- Fire
- Abnormal heating of the product interior not leading to external fire

Example Measures Taken Under the Product Safety Policy

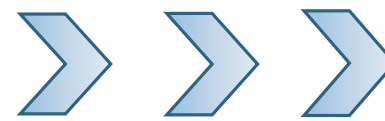
- 2005 The hazard prevention order for room heaters
 - 2006 The hazard prevention order
for single-source gas-powered water heaters
- 
- 2007 Introduction of the **Accident Report Disclosure Scheme**
by amending Consumer Product Safety Act
 - 2009 Introduction of **The Long-term Use Product Safety System**
(labeling and Inspection)
 - 2009 Establishment of Consumer Affairs Agency
 - 2012 Establishment of Consumer Safety Investigation Commission

Example Measures Taken Under the Product Safety Policy

Analyzing Product Accident Information



Analysis of the
Investigation results



Executing administrative Enforcement

The recall of the products etc.

Amending technical regulations

Specifying products

Lighter

Gas cooking stove

Oil space heaters/stoves

Deregulation

Baseball helmets

Roller-skates

Trends of Serious Product Accidents

Number of reports

