

Revision of the Consumer Product Safety Law

1. Present situation and problems to be solved about the product safety

- Our traditional basic policy on product safety measures in Japan is to enact technical regulations on products which are deemed to have high potential hazards and risks, and to approve manufactures or importers to place consumer products on market only if they could meet with technical regulations before entering the market.
- However, in recent years, it has become increasingly necessary to strengthen safety policy from the aspect of the whole product life-cycle, including post-market measures, due to the diversification of products and upsurge of consumer safety awareness.
- To prevent accidents associated with consumer products which have been already distributed in the market, it would be necessary to take safety measures especially for products which have high probability of serious accidents due to age degradation and are difficult to be inspected and maintained by consumers without technical knowledge.

2. Brief of Maintenance System on Consumer Products for long-term use

The following actions should be taken for preventing product accidents associated with products which have been already distributed in the market.

Establishing a maintenance system in which manufactures and importers provide information for the maintenance of consumer products to consumers and accept requests for inspection from consumers on potential hazardous consumer products which are difficult to be inspected and maintained by consumers without technical knowledge.

- The Role of Manufactures, Importers and Retailers
< Manufactures and Importers >

- Indication of the necessary information for proper maintenance(service life, acceptable inspection period)
- Notification of the timing of the inspections to consumers who register their contact addresses.
- Disclosure of information regarding the inspection and its cost

< Retailer >

- Provision and explanation of information for the maintenance of the designated consumer products as described by manufactures or importers

○ The Role of Consumers

- Registration of their contact addresses to Manufacture or Importer
- Collection of maintenance information necessary for long-term use
- Registration for inspection

○ The Role of Government

- Collection and publication of hazard information on age degradation of consumer products
- Collection and publication of information regarding inspection service providers