

MULTINATIONAL EC PROJECT “JOINT ACTION ON GPSD PRODUCTS AND HARMONIZED PRODUCTS” (JA2015)

Objectives of the Joint Action

The overall programme seeks to co-ordinate the product-specific market surveillance activities in the most efficient manner and provides an opportunity for further evaluating the best practices originally developed under the two EMARS projects, JA2009, JA2010, JA2011, JA2012 and now being applied and developed in the on-going JA2013 and JA2014.

Project Structure

Thirty-six Market Surveillance authorities from twenty-seven EEA Member States (MS) participate in the Joint Market Surveillance Action (JA2015). PROSAFE is the JA coordinator. JA2015 includes a number of product, method development and project management and coordination activities.

The products targeted are plasticized toys, child care articles (soothers and soother-holders), playgrounds, power tools and household electrical appliances. All product activities with the exception of one will take samples of the product concerned and submit these for testing. The Playgrounds Activity will undertake inspections of playgrounds that have already been installed. Risk assessment will be carried out once the results of the testing and inspections are made available. In the event of serious non-conformity, appropriate action will be taken.

All participating MS have committed to follow up on the results. If necessary, feedback will be given to the appropriate standards development bodies. In addition, the activities on child care articles, toys, power tools and electrical appliances have an element of priority-setting identifying those products that should be addressed by future JAs.

The method development activities will address risk assessment, CIMS (continuous improvement of national market surveillance), e-learning, new and emerging issues and impact improvement.

The project management and coordination activities will ensure that adequate attention is being given to issues such as the use of best practices, cooperation with customs, traceability, outreach to producer nations and international collaboration.

The launch event is being held early in April 2016 with the first workshop to present interim results in the spring of 2017 and the final conference will be held in 2018. The work of this JA will be closely coordinated with the other JAs being managed by PROSAFE. This helps ensure the development and practical application of best practices.

Participants

Thirty-six MS authorities of 27 EEA Member States are participating within the financial framework of the project.

Timeline

08 April 2016 to 08 June 2018

The product-specific activities are:

WP 1 Management (PROSAFE)
WP2 Dissemination of Information (PROSAFE)
WP3 Risk assessment (STMUV, DE)
WP4 Continuous improvement of Market Surveillance (CIMS) (MCCAA, Malta)
WP5 E-learning (NVWA, NL)
WP6 New and Emerging Issues (DGCCRF, France)
WP7 Impact Improvement (NVWA, NL)
WP8 CCA5 - Soothers and soother holders (FPS Economy, BE)
WP9 Toys 4 – Plasticised Toys (NEA, Norway)
WP10 Playgrounds (FPS Economy, BE)
WP11 Power Tools 2 (DG CCRF, France)
WP12 Household Electrical Appliances (MCCAA, Malta)

SAMTS participates in the following product-specific activities:

- 1. WP11 - Power Tools 2** (Participants: **DGCCRF**, PROSAFE, FPS Economy, CTI, MEBW, ROGA, CRPC, ILNAS, MCCAA, ASAE)

Work on Power Tools has begun within the framework of JA2014. One of the deliverables from JA2014 is a priority list. The proposal from JA2014 for the priority action in JA2015 is circular saws. There have been six RAPEX notifications made in 2012 and 2013 of these products. Injury data from the Netherlands (2105) and from the UK (2011) supports this choice as it ranks these products as the most dangerous of their class.

The participants will carry out coordinated market surveillance in their national markets. The project comprises 6 project meetings (including a 2-day meeting with the participation of stakeholders), testing of an estimated 100 products with the results being presented at the final conference of the Joint Action.

One of the main objectives of the activity is to maintain further the priority list developed under JA2014. This is necessary as the scope of this product sector is far too broad for a single product activity.

One product group will be selected from the priority list for sampling and testing within the framework of JA2015 and the other products can be addressed in future Joint Actions.

This work will of course be closely coordinated with the groups working on standards concerning Power tools. The Joint Action will support the work with the definition and checking of the test methods, the reproducibility of the tests, etc.

The activity will go through the following phases:

- Risk and market analysis to uncover the nature of the market and the risks posed by the product group. The analysis includes factors such as number of actors on the marketplace, their sizes and maturity, the relative share of import and manufacturing, number of products on the market, annual sales, injury statistics, research data, results from previous activities and knowledge of emerging hazards.

- Identify sampling criteria. The participants will decide on how the Member States shall carry out sampling. This phase also includes developing of checklists and/or guidelines for the Member States.

- Sample products. The Member States will visit manufacturers, importers, wholesalers and retailers to sample products.

The activities will be coordinated and reported back to the Joint Action.

- Test products at a laboratory. This includes the organisation of the testing.

- Risk assessment. The Member States will discuss a common set of principles for risk assessment and then carry out the risk assessment for the sampled products.

- Follow-up on non-compliant products and exchange information on follow-up activities. The Member State authorities will consult the economic operators on the results from the risk assessment and agree on appropriate measures and follow-up that these are implemented.

Main results expected from the JA2015 in relation to the product group “Power tools”

Deliverables:

- Planning of activities (Detailed approach to market surveillance activities)

- Project meetings (Minutes from meetings)

- Tools for market surveillance (Guideline to Member States on how to exchange information; memo to Member States on which products to sample; vhecklist and/or guideline capturing the best practices for doing market surveillance)

- Organisation of laboratory testing (test criteria; letter to laboratories, joint testing, overview of responses to call for tender, description of specific evaluation process and final contract with selected laboratory.)

- Market surveillance (Statistics on activities, i.e. number of products inspected, assessed and banned, number of visits to economic operators; memo with description of follow-up activities.)

- Final report (This report is drafted for the relevant target groups (market surveillance authorities, consumer organisations, industry, standardisation bodies, other concerned stakeholders or interested parties) and presents clearly the results achieved and the benefits and impact of the product activity.)

2. WP12 - Household Electrical Appliances (Participants: MCCAA, PROSAFE, SAMTS, EMS, CTI, TUKES, ROGA, CRPC, NVWA, ASAE, SNESB)

The set of standards applicable to blenders, mixers and toasters is quite well defined and is fully aligned with the correspondent international standards.

The standards applicable to these products are:

- EN 60335-2-9:1995+ A1:1998+ A2:2000+ A11:2000+ A12:2002+ A13:2002 for toasters and

- EN 60335-2-14:2006+AC:2007+A1:2008+A11:2012+AC:2013

It is especially important for these kind of products to know how the products are judged on LVD compliance by the manufacturer. Therefore, the EC declaration of conformity and the relevant parts of the Technical File (TF) will be verified during the JA.

The participants will carry out coordinated market surveillance in their national markets. The project comprises 6 project meetings (including a 2-day meeting with the participation of stakeholders), testing of an estimated 100 products with the results being presented at the final conference of the Joint Action.

One of the main objectives of the activity is to draw up a priority list. This is necessary as the scope of this product sector is far too broad for a single product activity.

One product group will be selected for sampling and testing within the framework of JA2015 and the others can be addressed in future Joint Actions.

The work will of course be closely coordinated with the groups working on standards concerning Household Electrical Appliances. The Joint Action will support the work with the definition and checking of the test methods, the reproducibility of the tests, etc.

The activity will go through the following phases

- Risk and market analysis to uncover the nature of the market and the risks posed by the product group. The analysis includes factors such as number of actors on the marketplace, their sizes and maturity, the relative share of import and manufacturing, number of products on the market, annual sales, injury statistics, research data, results from previous activities and knowledge of emerging hazards.
- Identify sampling criteria. The participants will decide on how the Member States shall carry out sampling. This phase also includes developing of checklists and/or guidelines for the Member States.
- Sample products. The Member States will visit manufacturers, importers, wholesalers and retailers to sample products.

The activity will be coordinated and reported back to the Joint Action.

- Test products at a laboratory. This includes the organisation of the testing.
- Risk assessment. The Member States will discuss a common set of principles for risk assessment and then carry out the risk assessment for the sampled products.
- Follow-up on non-compliant products and exchange information on follow-up activities. The Member State authorities will consult the economic operators on the results from the risk assessment, and agree on appropriate measures and follow-up that these are followed through.

Main results expected from the JA2015 in relation to product group “Household Electrical Appliances”:

Deliverables:

- Planning of activities (Detailed approach to market surveillance activities)
- Project meetings (Minutes from meetings)
- Tools for market surveillance (Guideline to Member States on how to exchange information; memo to Member States on which products to sample; checklist and/or guideline capturing the best practices for doing market surveillance)
- Organisation of laboratory testing (test criteria; letter to laboratories, joint testing, overview of responses to call for tender, description of specific evaluation process and final contract with selected laboratory.)

- Market surveillance (Statistics on activities, i.e. number of products inspected, assessed and banned, number of visits to economic operators; memo with description of follow-up activities.)
- Final report (This report is drafted for the relevant target groups (market surveillance authorities, consumer organisations, industry, standardisation bodies, other concerned stakeholders or interested parties) and presents clearly the results achieved and the benefits and impact of the product activity.)