

Brussels, 27 July 2020

It is time for an update!

# 9-month Progress Factsheet/Newsletter

## Joint Market Surveillance Action on Harmonised Products - JAHARP18

This newsletter covers the implementation of the first 9 months of the **cross-border joint market surveillance action on Recreational Craft (RCD) and Portable Room Heaters (LVD) - JAHARP18**. The action has two key objectives: (i) to improve safety and reduce accidents relating to two selected product groups; (ii) to decrease unfair competition in the European Single Market. JAHARP18 is co-funded (90% contribution) by the EU. 11 Market Surveillance Authorities (MSAs) from 9 European Union (EU) Member States participate and carry out the product inspections and testing. European Commission (EC)/DG GROW oversees the planning and execution of the activities. [PROSAFE](#) is the Project Coordinator.

### ► Timeline of the RCD and LVD activities

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown of European countries after February 2020 affected the execution of the RCD and LVD work plans. As a response, each working group produced a dynamic contingency plan in order to deal with the impacts of the pandemic. The immediate impact due to travel restrictions across Europe was the cancellation of physical meetings until further notice and their replacement by virtual tele-conferences. The RCD training day; originally scheduled for March 2020, is now planned towards the end of 2020. JAHARP18 continues to assess the situation on a rolling basis in order to devise and apply appropriate dynamic mitigation measures in collaboration with the EC/DG GROW.

### ► Fieldwork phase: state of play

The main challenges in the period were related to the COVID-19 crisis and its adverse implications.

**LVD Working Group:** The sampling stage is complete thanks to the efforts of the participating authorities. The group is now preparing to enter the testing phase. The draft program of tests was discussed and agreed internally, and a Call for Tender for test laboratories was published on 17 July 2020. It is anticipated that the contract with the selected laboratory could be signed in the early autumn.

**RCD Working Group:** Due to COVID-19 and the seasonality of the market for the products concerned, the RCD group had to postpone the sampling and testing of products until early 2021. In light of these circumstances, the group revisited its work plan. The group went ahead with the preparation and publication of a Call for Tender for test laboratories on 13 July 2020. A test laboratory will be selected in the autumn and the test program will then be finalised in cooperation with the selected body.

### ► Project meetings in period

After the Launch Conference and the kick-off meetings in late January 2020, the two working groups held one virtual tele-conference each to review progress and set up the next steps.

### ► Communication and Outreach

Coordination and communication in the period required the use of various communication channels and implied iterative communication efforts between the Project Coordinator and the MSAs involved. Targeted outreach and external visibility were achieved on the basis of a tailored communication strategy with an integrated performance evaluation plan. PROSAFE's web portal [www.prosafe.org](http://www.prosafe.org) and social media (Twitter and LinkedIn) kept feeding the target audiences with news and updates on the project activities throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.