INTERNATIONAL PRODUCT SAFETY WEEK 2014

Consumer Product Safety and Market Surveillance legislation in the European Union
– shaping the future

16 June 2014, 14.30-18:15
Charlemagne Building, 170 Rue de la Loi, Gasperi meeting room

14:30 – 14:40 Opening by the European Commission Head of Product and Service Safety Unit Maija Laurila.

14:40 – 15:40 Topic 1: Exchange of information and alerts
- Injury and Complaint Databases: Is there an added value for pan-European injury databases? Who should cover their costs, who should feed them with information, what should they deliver?
- RAPEX and ICSMS: Which information about market surveillance should be shared? How should it circulate? And which information should be made public?
- GPSD Business Application: what is the experience of their users? How could it be improved?

Moderator:
Ondrej Vondracek, Legal policy officer, Product and Service Safety Unit, DG Health and Consumers

Panel:
Wim Rogmans (Secretary General, EuroSafe)
Philip Earl (Head of Product Regulation, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, UK government)
Ravi Bhatiani (Director Legal Affairs, Independent Retail Europe)
Jean-Philippe Montfort (Partner, Mayer Brown)
15:40-16:40 Topic 2: Is the EU ready for harmonised penalties?
- Experience with penalties for putting dangerous non-food products on the market: Are penalties often applied? What criteria are used to decide if penalties should be applied? What are the types of penalties most commonly applied? Amount of fines across the EU? Which penalties work best and which less?
- What would be the appropriate amount of an "EU harmonised fine" for the breach of obligation to put safe products on the market? In what circumstances should such a fine be applied? How should it be calculated?
- Should there be obligation for economic operators to cover the costs of market surveillance activities? Always? Or only when the products proves to be dangerous? Or on a case-by-case basis?

Moderator:
Hans Ingels, Head of Unit - Internal Market and its International Dimension, DG Enterprise and Industry, European Commission

Panel:
Rod Freeman, Lawyer, Hogan Lovells International LLP
Sylvia Maurer, Head of Safety and Environment, BEUC
Robert Murphy, Senior Officer, Goods Division, EFTA
Paul Coebergh van den Braak, Chairman, Free Movement of Goods Working Group, BUSINESSEUROPE

16:40 – 17:00 Coffee Break

17:00 – 18:00 Topic 3: Traceability up to the origin
- Indication of country of origin in the EU and in third countries: convergence or divergence?
- Identification of the manufacturer and/or importer: How to make it work effectively and efficiently?
- Electronic traceability: bar codes, RFIDs and beyond – is the consumer ready?

Moderator:
Peter Bischoff-Everding, Deputy Head of Product and Service Safety Unit, DG Health and Consumers, European Commission

Panel:
Jean-Luc Laffineur, Partner, Laffineur Law Firm
Linda Engelmark, Product Safety & Compliance Specialist, IKEA
Chiara Giovannini, Programme Manager, ANEC
Maureen Logghe, Adjunct technical advisor, FPS Economy, SMEs, self-employed and Energy, Belgium

18:00 – 18.15 Closing remarks