Panel: Improving Product Safety Enforcement - Learning from others in North America

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Overview

 Health Canada rolling surveillance programme (Cyclical Enforcement - CE) and standards compliance verification projects (GP Projects).

 USA and Canada cooperation on Joint Recalls.





Health Canada's Rolling Surveillance Programme & Standards Compliance Verification Projects



Planned Market Surveillance Programme

- Background: Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (CCPSA) and the Food and Drugs Act (FDA) (Cosmetic Regulations)
 - Post-market regulatory regime
- Reactive vs. Proactive Compliance Activities
 - Cyclical Enforcement (CE) projects
 - GP/Standards Projects
 - Establishment Projects



CE Projects to Enforce 33 Regulations...

- Asbestos Products Regulations Candles Regulations
- Carbonated Beverage Glass Containers Regulations 18. Infant Feeding Bottle Nipples Regulations
- 3. Carriages and Strollers Regulations
- Cellulose Fibre Insulation Regulations
- **Charcoal Regulations** 5.
- Children's Jewellery Regulations
- Children's Sleepwear Regulations
- Consumer Chemicals and Containers Regulations, 2001
- Consumer Products Containing Lead (Contact with Mouth) Regulations
- 10. Corded Window Covering Products Regulations
- 11. Cribs, Cradles and Bassinets Regulations
- 12. Expansion Gates and Expandable Enclosures Regulations
- 13. Face Protectors for Ice Hockey and Box
- 14. Lacrosse Players Regulations
- 15. Glass Doors and Enclosures Regulations

- 16. Glazed Ceramics and Glassware Regulations
- 17. Ice Hockey Helmet Regulations
- 19. Kettles Regulations
- 20. Lighters Regulations
- 21. Matches Regulations
- 22. Mattresses Regulations
- 23. Pacifiers Regulations
- 24. Phthalates Regulations
- 25. Playpens Regulations
- 26. Residential Detectors Regulations
- 27. Restraint Systems and Booster Seats for Motor **Vehicles Regulations**
- 28. Science Education Sets Regulations
- 29. Surface Coating Materials Regulations
- 30. Tents Regulations
- 31. Textile Flammability Regulations
- 32. Textile Floor Coverings Regulations
- 33. Toys Regulations
- 34. + Cosmetic Regulations

CE Projects

- Planning:
 - 33 product-related regulations under the CCPSA
 - Priorities: non-compliance in regulated product categories
 - Six Year Cycle
 - Factors for establishing/modifying cycles
 - Planned yearly CE activities & long-term CE plan
 - Decision Process: CE schedule & CE planning committee



CE Projects

- Factors for establishing/modifying cycles: The frequency of reviews is termed the "enforcement cycle". The CE policy discusses the following factors which considered when establishing or modifying enforcement cycles:
 - Type of product;
 - Nature of industry and historical level of compliance;
 - Vulnerability of the product users;
 - Recent and historical incident and injury data; and
 - Nature of the hazard.



Rolling Market Surveillance Programme (CE)

- CE Implementation and Monitoring
 - Establishment Compliance vs. Specific Product Compliance.
 - Long-term CE Schedule (dynamic)
 - CE Project (duration of 3 to 12 months) general steps:
 - product scoping, targeting methodology, market analysis, inspections, compliance and enforcement actions, and reporting.
 - CE Reports/ Annual CE Report
- Validation & Improvement of the CE process
 - Performance Management (CPSP Performance Measurement Strategy)



Standards Compliance Verification Projects (GP Projects)

- Background:
 - Section 7 of the CCPSA (General Prohibition/ Danger to Human Health or Safety - DHHS)
 - Role of Industry
- Enforcement of the General Prohibition and Standards
 - "Unregulated" consumer products
 - General Prohibition (GP) projects assessing the use of standards to support the compliance and enforcement
 - Compliance and Enforcement Actions
- Beyond standards



Example: Seasonal Lights

- Background:
 - Electrical Requirements/Certification Process in Canada

OVERHEAT

- Seasonal Lights Incidents and Risk Assessment
- Test Plan:
 - Determination of DHHS
 - Standards Requirements

Enforcement Plan:

Enforcement Matrix

Ad-hoc

13	.	
VERHEATING		
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tests failed		

Results:

15 establishments inspected and 20 products samples tested.

OVERHEATING tests failed Failed wire gauge size AND XRF test	STOP SALE	RECALL	RECALL
Failed wire gauge size OR XRF test	STOP SALE	RECALL	RECALL
NONE	No Action	STOP SALE	STOP SALE
	NONE	Failed lampholder OR vertical flame test	Failed lampholder AND vertical flame test

FLAMMABILITY tests failed

Example: Seasonal Lights

Results:

	Phase		Total
	Planned	Ad-hoc	Iotai
Establishments	15	9 additional	
inspected	(no product found at 3 establishments)	(plus 2 establishments were inspected again)	24
Products sampled and tested	20	19	39
Products with failures	9	13	22 (56%)
Different manufacturers tested	12	4 additional manufacturers	16

- 5 out of 16 (31%) of the manufacturers had product that failed at least one test (Table 2).
- 4 out of 16 (25%) of the manufacturers had copper composition failures

Impact:

- 27 different importers were named on postings;
- Over 250 different models of light strings were recalled; and
- Over 2.7 million units of light strings were recalled.

Establishment-Based Inspection

- Compliance Verification Inspections
 - Looking at an establishment's processes to assess their ability to meet requirements under the CCPSA
- Mandatory Incident Reporting Inspections
 - Looking at industry's compliance to their reporting obligations



Recalls in USA and Canada



Objectives of a Recall

 To locate and remove or correct hazardous products as quickly as possible

 To communicate accurate and understandable information to the public in a <u>timely</u> manner about the hazard and what action should be taken

Mandatory Reporting Requirement

Both HC and CPSC have Mandatory Reporting Requirements provided in their legislation:

- Section 14 of the CCPSA for Health Canada
- Section 15 of the Consumer Product Safety Act for CPSC

The Recall Process

1. Stop

Stop manufacturing, stop selling, stop retail sales

2. Fix

Repair, redesign, replace, refund, dispose, relabel

3. Communicate

 To distribution chain to pull off market; to Canadians to make aware of issue and what they should do

Recalls happen!
Planning and preparing in advance saves time and money.

JOINT RECALLS

Criteria for Joint Recalls

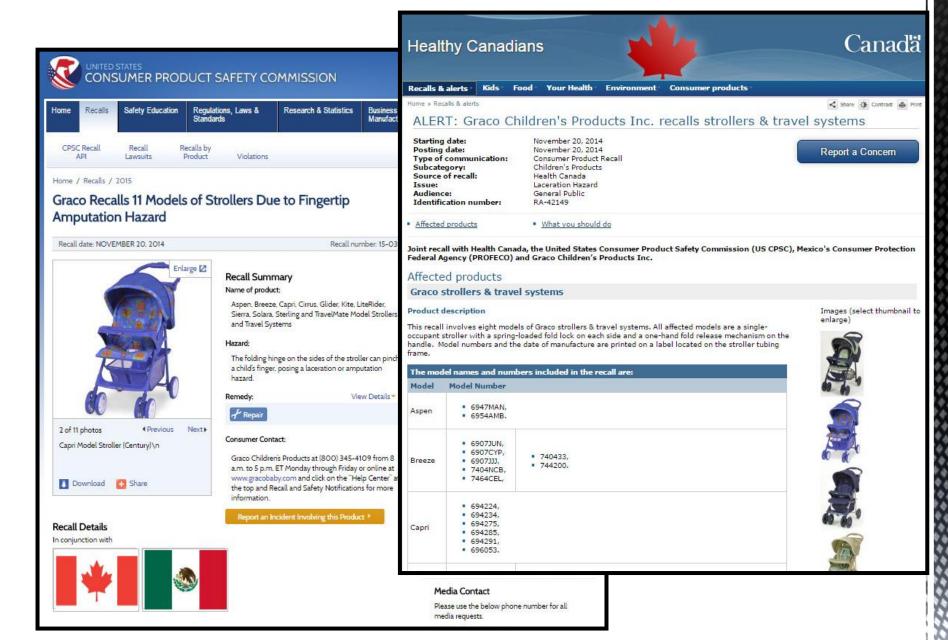


- Product sold in both countries
- Product must also be under the jurisdiction of both agencies
- Corrective measures and customer support extended to customers in both countries
- Timing works for regulator and company
- Company sharing all information with both jurisdictions early in the process
- Joint recall is conducted voluntarily

Benefits of Joint Recalls

- Reduced burden on industry
- Increase in consumer pick-up
- Leverages other regulator's resources and authorities
- Information sharing
- Strengthens border protection
- Consistent messaging across the continent

Example





Few Differences:



Health Canada

Santé Canada



Recalls: HC's Expectations

Health Canada expects timely, efficient cooperation from companies when carrying out consumer product recalls.

When planning a recall

- Notify HC
- Answer questions from Regional Inspectors
- Recall notices will be posted online

Following the Recall:

- Recall effectiveness
- Recall monitoring

Timelines for Communicating Recalls

HC has specific timelines for posting information once the decision is made to recall a product:



	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Criteria	serious and imminent danger	serious danger	other danger (lower risk)	no evidence of danger
Timeline	2 Days	14 days	8 Weeks	Company driven
Alert Included?	YES	MAY include Alert	N/A	N/A

Communicating: Recalls and Safety Alerts



All Government of Canada recalls are found at http://www.healthycanadians.gc.ca



Corrective Action Plan Notification Elements

- ☐ Press Release or Recall Alert
- ☐ Website posting on firm's main website
- ☐ Stop-Sale notification to all retailers, dealers, distributors
- ☐ Toll-free number with detailed scripts

Reporting to CPSC

- Report Online via: <u>www.cpsc.gov</u>
 (Report/Business) or <u>www.saferproducts.gov</u>
 (Business Portal)
- Report via Email: Section15@cpsc.gov

Recall Recap

- Joint reporting
- Communication between regulators
- Clear recall communications
 - Standard language
- Early engagement

INSIGHTS INTO RECALLS

Thank You!

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