



25 YEARS

PROSAFE

Joint Actions
Best Practice

Product Safety Enforcement: Lessons learned and ways forward

10 Years of Joint Market Surveillance Actions

Joint Actions coordinated by PROSAFE

- 21 Joint Actions since 2005
- Targeting 49 different products and a broad range of other issues related to market surveillance
- All European Union and eligible EFTA Member States have participated
- JA2015 has 35 authorities from 26 Member States
- Over 21,000,000 EUR EU funding since 2005
- This represents 70% of the total cost of the projects which is in excess of 29,000,000 EUR

Products targeted for safety

- Lighters
- Cords and strings
- Sun Beds
- Helmets
- Fireworks
- Ladders
- Laser Pointers
- Visibility Clothing
- Battery Chargers
- Christmas Lights
- Playgrounds
- Toys
- Baby Walkers
- Child Care Articles
- Bathing aids
- Wheeled Child Conveyances
- High chairs
- Travel Cots
- Kick Scooters
- Children's Fancy Dress
- Child Appealing Appliances
- Food imitating Products
- Lawnmowers
- CO Detectors
- Smoke Detectors
- Nanotechnology and Cosmetics
- Chemicals in Clothing
- Household electrical appliances
- Power Tools

Other issues



- Best Practices
- Knowledge Management
- Risk Assessment
- Training
- Exchange of Officials
- Peer Evaluation
- European Home Authority Principle
- E-commerce
- Cooperation with Customs
- Collaboration with producer nations
- Feedback to standards development
- Stakeholder involvement
- Impact Improvement
- New and emerging issues



Current GPSD Joint Actions



- JA2014 launched in July 2015
- Products are noisy toys, safety barriers, fireworks, power tools and CFL and LED lighting
- Product sector approach to power tools addresses some products now but identifies medium term priorities for coming years JA2015, JA2016 etc.
- Method development activities such as best practice and risk assessment
- 36 authorities from 28 Member States on board

- Joint Action launched in April of this year
- Plasticized Toys, soothers and soother holders, circular saws, playgrounds and household electrical appliances (blenders, mixers and toasters)
- Two new method development activities address impact improvement and new and emerging issues.
- 35 authorities from 26 Member States

JA2016



- Proposal submitted for JA2016
- Hoping for January 2017 launch
- Electrical toys, baby carriers and cots, impact drills, haircare products, climbing equipment.
- 33 authorities from 25 Member States
- Latest proposal under funding programme that is in place until 2020 with excellent prospects of renewal beyond 2020

Product Activities

- Risk and Market Analysis
- Decide on sampling criteria
- Sampling of Products
- Testing of Products
- Risk Assessment
- Follow-up Activities, taking measures
- Communicate results and conclusions

Risk and Market Analysis

- Before Joint Action itself and then once started
What do we take into account Risk and Market Analysis
- Why do we choose certain products
- Product sector priority-setting
- What are we looking for once we start product activities
- Identify source of products online/imported



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the BBC News website. It features the BBC logo on the left, followed by menu items: News, Sport, Weather, Capital, Future, and a partially visible 'S'. Below this is a large red banner with the word 'NEWS' in white, followed by the text 'EDINBURGH, FIFE & EAST SCOTLAND'. Underneath the banner is a secondary navigation bar with links for Home, UK, Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, Mid-East, US & Canada, Business, Health, and Sci/Env. A third bar below that lists regional links: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland (highlighted in orange), Wales, UK Politics, and Education.

4 February 2013 Last updated at 17:51 GMT



Baby Ainslie Smith death inquiry told faulty cot was to blame

A court has been told that the death of a baby boy in Fife was caused by a faulty cot.

Six-month-old Ainslie Smith died in July 2009 after he became trapped between the mattress and the side of his cot as he slept at his home in Pitlessie.



Risk and Market Analysis - Cots

- 16 of 21 Member States rated Cots as their #1 Child Care Articles priority
- Member States decided to examine mix of traditional cots and travel cots

Types of cots we looked at



Traditional cot



Folding cot with changing unit and bassinet

Sampling

- Criteria NOT a statistical sample - we are trying to identify dangerous products
- Online sampling becoming more important
- Coordination of samples taken to avoid duplication and ensure geographical spread
- Implemented by smaller groups of Member States
- Samples can come from any Member State
- Cooperation with customs to take samples

Cot samples

Iceland
 3 x travel cot
 3 x traditional cot

The Netherlands
 3 x travel cot
 3 x traditional cot

Belgium
 3 x travel cot
 3 x traditional cot

Portugal
 5 x travel cot
 0 x traditional cot

Malta
 4 x travel cot
 1 x traditional cot



Germany
 4 x travel cot
 2 x traditional cot

Czech Republic
 3 x travel cot
 2 x traditional cot

Bulgaria
 5 x travel cot
 1 x traditional cot

Greece
 3 x travel cot
 2 x traditional cot

Sampling choices

Some Member States Authorities used the internet to identify and select some worrying looking products for sampling e.g.



Testing

Purpose to identify unsafe products - not to prove products safe nor to identify each and every risk

- Not full compliance testing, but targeted at most important risks - greatly reduces costs
- Joint testing following a tender - greatly reduces costs
- Participants agree on a test programme
- Test requirements usually based on relevant European Standard(s) - but can go beyond

Overview of cots test programme

- Tested to applicable ENs (EN 716 and EN 12221)
- PLUS additional tests (some proposed by stakeholders) developed by the participating MSAs...

Additional tests...

1. Testing of cots used in combination with changing tables
2. Common-sense study of potential hazards caused by cot accessories
3. Ability to collapse a travel cot by a child crawling underneath
3. Shaking tests
4. Air permeability of fabric sides of folding and travel cots

Significant numbers of products tested

- Lighters II - 8,000 inspections more than 5,000 lighters checked
- First toys project 14,000 toys inspected, 230 products screened with XRF
- Cords and drawstrings 4,927 visits 16,381 garments checked
- Children's Fancy Dress 1,150 tests on 237 samples
- Tires 15,000 tires inspected
- Numbers are far in excess of what Member States can do on their own

Risk Assessment

- The risk is assessed for every non-compliance identified in the test
- Use RAPEX Risk Assessment Guidelines as basis
- The method builds on probability factors and injury scenarios
- Risk Assessment Templates to increase consistency and support risk assessors
- Intervention schemes developed to interpret results and identify need for corrective action

Risk Assessment

Injury scenario: A short explanation how a non-compliant product injures the consumer

Generic model:

- “You take the non-compliant product. You put it in the hands of the consumer. And then you see what happens”

Risk assessment template

Risk assessment - the process:



Risk assessment template

(available on www.prosafe.org)

DEFINITION

A risk assessment template is **a compilation of injury scenarios**, one for each potential (major) non-compliance in the product that describes how each of the non-compliances may injure a consumer.

The template **may include guidance** on the estimates of the probability factors but will not fix the probabilities.

Risk assessment template - cots

Injury scenario

1. A baby is in the cot, unsupervised and playing
2. The cot has small detachable parts within the baby's reach
3. The baby pulls off a small part
4. The baby puts the small part in its mouth
5. The small part gets into the airways and blocks the oxygen flow

Risk assessment template - cots

- Estimate probabilities for each step
- Determine the severity of the injury
- RAPEX template combines probability and severity to get risk level



Follow-up Activities, taking measures

- Results are followed up by ALL Member States in the Joint Action - goes beyond RAPEX notifications

Impact on Specific Markets

- Laser pointers - 88 samples were taken. 74% were class 3 which are not to be sold to consumers and of these 95% were not correctly labelled. This accounted for 70% of RAPEX notifications in 2012.
- Ladders - 17 stepladders were sampled and 21 multi-purpose or leaning ladders. 20 of the samples tested presented a serious risk, the majority due to inadequate strength, and 4 presented a medium risk.
- Lawnmowers - 25 tested two-thirds failed

Toys JA2013



- 123 out of 265 samples failed to meet EN71-1
- 27 out of 228 samples contained phthalates
- 80 RAPEX notifications, 31 voluntary measures
- 79 mandatory measures

Children's Kick Scooters JA2013

- 46 out of 48 toy kick scooters failed the test
- 18 out of 20 sports kick scooters failed the test
- 21 RAPEX notifications made
- 30 voluntary measures, 8 mandatory measures
- 5 recalls

Cords and Drawstrings on children's clothing

2009

- over 16,000 garments checked
- 2,200 non-compliant (13.4%) and 500 RAPEX notifications
- Checklist developed for Customs and Market Surveillance Authorities
- Outreach to CEN

2013

- 10,981 garments checked
- 790 non-compliant (7.2%)
- No serious risks found

The Results - Cots JA2013

- 90% failed either safety or labelling
- 70% of 50 cots tested failed safety requirements
- 25 cots (50%) presented a serious risk
- Enforcement action was taken against 35 of the 50 cots (70%) - 23 RAPEX notifications, 22 cots recalled or sales bans put in place, 7 products to be adapted

Results of head entrapment test on the outside of the cot



7 of 14 samples failed this clause

Results of checks for snag points



7 of 49 samples failed this test requirement

Results of strength tests



4 failed for the strength of sides/ends

Results of JA designed tests



Ability to collapse a travel cot by a child crawling underneath (2 from 28 failed)



Shaking tests
7 from 48 failed
(6 were travel cots)

Results from Joint Actions to date

- Significant numbers of products tested and dangerous products identified
- Corrective action and ability to substantially impact specific markets
- Influence on standards
- Better understanding of risk assessment
- Cooperation with Customs and third countries
- Stakeholder engagement

Influence on standards

- Baby walkers - testing validated new tests developed in another jurisdiction and these were adopted in Europe
- Ladders - testing demonstrated shortcomings in existing standard
- Extensive involvement of standards development organizations in product activities

Cooperation with customs and third countries

- Lighters II - Customs inspected 850 consignments with lighters from third countries upon arrival to the EU
- Cords and drawstrings - Spanish Customs checked containers in the port of entry
- DG TAXUD has produced guidelines for cooperation and checklists for many products
- Development within the Joint Actions of checklists for customs officials for other products according to DG TAXUD principles

Stakeholder engagement

- Participation of stakeholders in workshops and individual product activities
- ANEC involvement in priority-setting
- In some product activities industry has come together at European level for the first time
- Guidance developed to help compliance - for example Children's Fancy Dress - a Guide for Economic Operators - cords and drawstrings guidance being translated into Chinese and PROSAFE coordinated a revision of the European Corrective Action Guide

Impact of Cots project...

- Press coverage was generated...

Sunday, October 18, 2015, 00:01 by Odette Vella

Cots: product safety warning



Giraffe Quatro

As part of the Prosafe Joint Action Market Surveillance of Cots and Travel Cots, the Technical Regulations Division within the Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority has tested a number of cots found on the market locally.

Results from the accredited laboratory have shown that the traditional cot, 'Baby Italia – Dalia', and the travel cot, 'Quatro Giraffe', pose a serious risk to consumers, infants and babies.

The Baby Italia – Dalia cot is not compliant with the applicable standard since when the moveable sides are in the open position, the locking mechanism does not engage automatically. Moreover, the adjacent slats of the cot base are placed too wide apart.



Innkalla hættuleg barnarúm



Juliu-barnarúmin frá Basson.

hvatrir til að hætta strax notkun barna

Engar tilkynningar hafa borist Neytendastofu.

Ólavía og Oliver hafa innkallað barnarúm frá Basson sem heitir Julia. Barnarúmið getur verið hættulegt börnum þar sem þeim getur stafað hengarhætta af því hvernig horn rúmsins eru hönnuð.

Fram kemur á vef Neytendastofu, að hlíðar rúmsins séu með gölluðum læsingum. Það geti komið fyrir að þær virki ekki auk þess sem ekki sé hægt að festa þær í neðri stöðu. Brautin sem notuð sé til að fara bláa upp og niður sé hannað.

Barnarúm innkölluð vegna mögulegrar slyshættu



Engar tilkynningar hafa borist Neytendastofu um slysi af völdum ofangreindra barnarúma.

Neytendastofa vill vekja athygli á innköllun lívu á Malík barnarúmum vegna mögulegrar slyshættu. Ástæða innköllunar er sú að barnarúmin eru ekki nægilega örugg og uppfylla ekki kröfur um öryggi, að því er segir á vef Neytendastofu.

Í tilkynningu frá lívu kemur fram að viðskiptavinir sem eiga Malík barnarúm, séu beðnir um að hætta notkun þeirra.

Barnarímlarúmin hafa verið seld í lívu, Korputorgi frá því árið 2011. Líva mun hafa samband við kaupendur rúmana en hægt er að skila rúmunum í lívu versluninni.

Impact of Cots project...

- Seeking improvements in test standards...
 - CEN committee briefed on deficiencies in EN standards for Cots
- Better informed economic operators...
 - The Greek Authority have already held a workshop for 100+ economic operators, to explain the importance of complying to EN716
- A follow-up JA on cots will start in 2017

Benefits



- Greater geographical coverage of follow-up of results
- Reduced administrative burden
- More consistent approach to implementation of activities, to horizontal issues and to development and application of Best Practice
- Reduced costs mean the Actions save money and increases the reach of the results of the activities
- Really helps authorities with limited resources
- Emergence of de facto European level programme

Some Obstacles / Challenges

- Reduced number of Member State staff
- Lack of Member State laboratories
- Reduced budgets Member States for testing, if any
- Collective multi-annual planning needed
- Differences in regulatory systems
- Differences in enforcement culture/tradition
- Absence of coordination between Market Surveillance Authorities in Member States
- Cooperation with Customs



Adoption of Joint Action Model in other sectors

- Market surveillance of energy labelling and eco-design requirements - not directly related to safety
- Energy consumption of professional and household products - check against labelling
- LED lamps, Imaging equipment, Space heaters and combination heaters
- Development of best practices in this sector
- 12 Member States participating
- Very big project 2,5 mio EUR from DG ENER
- Proposal for EEPLIANT 2 in preparation with 14 Member States committed



- Market surveillance of chainsaws and vehicle service lifts
- Project funded by DG GROW
- 13 Member States participating
- Vehicle service lifts inspected and tested in situ
- training being provided to harmonize the approach taken by the different authorities
- Runs through 2018



- Car tyres - combines safety and energy labelling
- Tests for energy efficiency (rolling resistance) and tests for safety (wet grip)
- 13 Member States and Turkey taking part
- Novel aspect - inspectors will input data into tablets and this will be linked to own IT system and ICSMS

The Joint Actions are now a multi-annual European Market Surveillance Programme

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- Over 21 Mio EUR EU funding for projects costing 29 Mio EUR



*Thank you for
your presence
your attention
and your questions !*

www.prosafe.org

www.eepliant.eu

www.mstyr15.eu