



EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION

Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland

Panel discussion
Conference on market surveillance and machinery
Brussels 24 November 2011



EFTA Member States Evolution – 51 years

1960

EFTA is established

**Austria, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK
an economic counterbalance to the EEC 6 member states**

1970

Iceland joins EFTA

1972

Denmark and the United Kingdom join the EU

1985

Portugal joins the EU

1986

Finland a full member of EFTA

1991

Liechtenstein member of EFTA

1995

Austria, Finland and Sweden join the EU



Market Surveillance in the EEA – Regulation (EC) 765/2008 9 July 2008

General Product Safety Directive 2001/95/EC

- **Preparation of national market surveillance programmes and evaluation of the programmes**
- **Development of training programmes**
- **Use of RAPEX and a second electronic information support system**
- **Enhanced cooperation with Customs**
- **Performance of appropriate sampling, documentary and laboratory checks.**



Challenges facing Market Surveillance Authorities (MSA)

- **MSA often fragmented – little national coordination**
- **Lack of coherence between legislative instruments**
- **Level of expectation and political profile**
- **Access to the necessary resources**
- **The need to meet the requirements of the EU...**



The Future

- **Must be realistic regarding resources**
 - MSA
 - Customs
- **Smarter risk management**
- **Include the stakeholders in the process**
- **Future merger of legislation, establishment of a new system for market surveillance..?**



Thanks for listening

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