

# COMPETITIVENESS AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Sectoral Committee  
Weekly Update  
**19.02.10**

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## **Follow up on COM (2009) 83 - Proposal for a Directive amending Council Directive 78/660/EEC on the annual accounts of certain types of companies as regards micro-entities<sup>1</sup>**

The EP Committee on Legal Affairs adopted its report under the first reading of the codecision procedure. The committee, on the basis of a compromise, adopted amendments to Article 1 a paragraph 1 of Directive 78/660/EEC and the corresponding recital 6, stating that **micro-entities must still be subject to the obligation to keep records** that show the company's business transactions and financial situation as a minimum standard to which Member States remain free to add further obligations.

Furthermore, the committee adopted three amendments, highlighting that **Member States should have the free choice of exempting micro-entities or not**, taking into account in particular of the situation at national level regarding the number of businesses covered under the threshold values laid down in the Directive.

The report will be voted upon in plenary on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/file.jsp?id=5750842&language=en&mailer=true>

## **Consultation on the amendment of the Construction Products Regulations**

<b>Background</b>	The list of harmonised European Standards within the Construction Products Directive (89/106/EC) in the Official Journal of the European Union has been updated. Hence, the national Construction Products Regulations need to be amended to reflect the updates carried out at European level.
<b>Key points in text of new Proposal</b>	Schedule V of the Construction Products Regulations will be substituted in order to update the list of harmonised Standards for which CE marking is mandatory.
<b>Who would be interested</b>	Manufacturers, importers, distributors, sellers and users of construction products.
<b>What will be affected</b>	This regulation applies to construction products which fall under the scope of harmonised European Standards within the Construction Products Directive (89/106/EC).
<b>Feedback</b>	Feed back, which must be sent to the Malta Standards Authority by <b>12<sup>th</sup> March 2010</b> , is to be sent by email or post to the addresses below:  Regulatory Affairs Directorate, MALTA STANDARDS AUTHORITY, Second Floor, Evans Building, Merchants Street, Valletta, VLT 1179, Email: thomas.consoli@msa.org.mt

<sup>1</sup> CCA Update 27th February 2009

## Consultation on the Amendment of the Safety of Toys Directive 88/378/EC

<b>BACKGROUND</b>	<p>The definitions and classification criteria of dangerous substances and mixtures were harmonised via EC Regulation 1272/2008. The new changes resulted in the need for a revision of certain parts of the Toys Directive 88/378/EC with respect to classification and labelling requirements of dangerous substances and mixtures.</p>
<p>Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on classification, labeling and packaging of substances and mixtures provides for the harmonization of the classification and labeling of substances and mixtures within the Community. It incorporates the criteria for classification and labeling of substances and mixtures provided for by the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals which has been adopted at international level within the structure of the United Nations.</p> <p>Regulation 1272/2008 builds on and replaces the Dangerous Substances Regulations of 2008 (LN 306/2008) and the Dangerous Substances and Preparations Regulations, 2007 (LN 10/2007). A transition from the old to the new system of classification and labeling was required in terms of Directive 88/378/EC on Toys (LN 373/2002), in particular Schedules II (essential safety requirements) and IV (warnings and labeling).</p> <p>The points to be revised in the Toys Directive arise out of Directive 2008/112/EC amending various Directives.</p>	
<b>KEY POINTS PROPOSED FOR REVISION</b>	<p>The aim of this amendment is to update the classification and labeling criteria of chemicals in the Toys Regulations with the new GHS system.</p>
<p>The main changes in the Toys Regulations are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– As from <b>1<sup>st</sup> June 2010</b>, all references to the word “preparation” will be replaced by the word “mixture”;</li> <li>– Classification and labeling criteria will change to the new system with respect to flammable chemicals in toys (Schedule II of LN 373/2002), chemical properties (Schedule II of LN 373/2002) and labeling for toys containing dangerous chemicals (Schedule IV of LN 373/2002). These changes will be divided in 2 phases, one kicking off on <b>1<sup>st</sup> December 2010</b>, the next starting on <b>1<sup>st</sup> June 2015</b>.</li> </ul>	
<b>WHO WILL BE AFFECTED?</b>	<p>Competent Authorities, Manufacturers, Authorised Representatives, Notified Bodies, Importers, Distributors and Users of Toys.</p>
<b>WHAT PRODUCTS WILL BE AFFECTED?</b>	<p>Products satisfying the definition of toys in the Safety of Toys Regulations, 2002.</p>
<b>FEEDBACK</b>	<p>Feed back, which must be sent to the Malta Standards Authority by <b>8<sup>th</sup> March 2010</b>, is to be sent by email or post to the addresses below:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Regulatory Affairs Directorate, MALTA STANDARDS AUTHORITY, Second Floor, Evans Building, Merchants Street, Valletta, VLT 1179, Emails: david.pulis@msa.org.mt; tristan-charles.camilleri@msa.org.mt</p>