

## **The UK Transition- General Product Safety Regulations 2005**

The UK has left the EU and the transition period after Brexit ended on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020. While the Northern Ireland Protocol is in force, from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021, Northern Ireland will align with relevant EU rules relating to the placing on the market of manufactured goods. Products placed on the NI market must therefore follow UK law as it applies to NI.

In view of this I would draw your attention to the following guide [General Product Safety Regulations guide](#) for businesses placing products not covered by other specific legislation on the market in Northern Ireland from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021.

This guide is designed to help you comply with the General Product Safety Regulations 2005, as they apply in NI. They set out the requirements that must be met before products can be placed on the NI market. The purpose of this legislation is to ensure that consumer products are safe before they can be placed on the market in NI. This is done by requiring producers to ensure that consumer products meet the general safety requirement.

To help you assess your place in a product supply chain, you should answer the following questions:

Do you manufacture goods in NI, or act as the manufacturer by affixing your name, trademark etc to a product or do you recondition a product?

OR

Do you place a product on the market that was manufactured in GB or the EEA? \*

Are you a professional in the supply chain that by your activities may affect the safety of a product?

**If you have answer YES\*\* to any of the above, you are now known as the Producer of the product.**

\* If you brought the products in from GB or the EEA, you are importing the goods

*\*\*This is a significant change following UK leaving the EU and places more responsibility on local businesses who may have previously been distributors or retailers, are now producers.*

### ***Obligations of a producers include:***

1. Before placing a product on the market you must ensure that it is a safe product, i.e. one which under normal or reasonably foreseeable condition of use does not present any risk or only the minimum risk compatible with the product's use
2. You must provide consumers with the relevant information to enable them to assess the risk inherent in the product throughout the normal or reasonably foreseeable period of its use (where such risks are not immediately obvious) and to take precautions against those risks.
3. You must also allow for traceability by indicating on the product or its packaging (except when it is not reasonable to do so):  
your name and address  
product reference / batch number of the product
4. You must adopt measures to know the risks your product might present e.g. sample test marketed products; investigate and, if necessary, keep a register of complaints concerning the safety of the product; and keep distributors informed of the results.

### **Further Information**

**For further advice and information on supplying safe goods contact the Environmental Health Department, Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council**

**T: 0300 0300 900**

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