

## CPSC Staff Conformity Assessment Message for China\*

### Manufacturer/Brand Owner Message

#### 1. For Those Products Where a Certification Program Exists, Certification of Products is Recommended

- You may take advantage of various product certification programs associated with certain industries, such as \*\*
  - a) Juvenile Products Manufacturing Association for “juvenile products,”
  - b) American Fireworks Standards Laboratory for fireworks,
  - c) An OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) NRTL (Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory) for certification of electrical and life-safety products, such as fire sprinklers, carbon monoxide and smoke alarms, fire extinguishers, seasonal/decorative products, and electrical outlet strips for which the laboratory is accredited. A list of current NRTLs and their respective scopes of accreditation may be found at: <http://www.osha.gov/dts/otpca/nrtl> .
- Important elements of certification programs (ISO/IEC Guide 65) include surveillance services such as:
  - a) Factory inspections
  - b) Pre-market production sample testing, and
  - c) Post-market surveillance.

#### 2. Get Product Tested

- CPSC staff recommends product testing, internally or externally, by an accredited test laboratory:
  - a) accredited to the ISO/IEC 17025 standard by a recognized accreditation body
  - b) with the appropriate scope to ensure the laboratory’s technical competence for the specific product safety standards.
- Tested products should be representative of production.
- Employ appropriate quality control systems for product characteristics that impact safety.
- Sampling of production runs should be done to ensure continued quality and compliance.

#### 3. Standards and Training are Recommended

- For manufacturers whose activities involve design:
  - a) identify appropriate safety standards
  - b) translate those standards when necessary
  - c) incorporate safety standards into product design, and
  - d) consider product safety engineering courses for key staff in design, manufacturing and marketing/sales.

\* *These suggestions are those of CPSC staff, have not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the views of, the Commission.*

\*\* *Views of the Associations or the Laboratories mentioned may not reflect the views of the Commission.*

## U.S. Retailer/Importer Message

### 1. Internal or External Testing is Recommended

- CPSC staff recommends that U.S. retailers/importers expect that all products bound for the U.S. market meet appropriate product safety standards and be tested to these standards by an accredited laboratory, either internally or externally. Tested products should be representative of production.
- Retailers/importers should undertake or arrange for inspection activities to insure that marketed products continue to meet the standards to which the sample products were tested. Recommended inspection activities may include, but are not limited to:
  - a) Review of test/certification reports
  - b) Verification of certification mark (if applicable) with certification agency/laboratory
  - c) Auditing of manufacturing facilities
  - d) Independent verification or testing of the product

### 2. Standards and Training are Recommended

- CPSC staff recommends that U.S. retailers/importers expect and encourage their manufacturers/suppliers/vendors to:
  - a) Identify or develop appropriate testing and/or certification resources to demonstrate compliance with appropriate safety standards.
  - b) Employ appropriate quality control systems for product characteristics that impact safety.
  - c) For manufacturers whose activities involve design:
    - identify appropriate safety standards,
    - translate those standards when necessary,
    - incorporate safety standards into product design, and
    - consider product safety engineering courses for key staff in design, manufacturing and marketing/sales.