



Canada: Unique Labeling and Packaging Requirements

Ruth Williamson
Brian Pfeiffer
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Summary

Consumer labeling and packaging requirements differ between countries, making it vital for exporters to acquaint themselves with local regulations and laws when entering international markets. For the latest Canadian regulatory information, access the *Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act and Regulations*, October 1999, on-line at <http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/pics/ct/cpla.pdf>.

Essential Requirements

In Canada, as in the U.S., three mandatory statements exist which must be shown on a label. They are: **product identity**, **product net quantity**, and the **dealer's name and primary place of business**. The product identity declaration must state either the product's common or generic name or it must be defined in terms of its function. As with all mandatory statements, the height of the type font must meet minimum requirements that govern the product identity declaration. Regarding a product's net quantity, units must be displayed according to the metric system for all measures and weights. In addition, Canadian regulations require that both the product identity and the product net quantity declarations be in both the English and French languages.

Concerning the dealer statement, the dealer's name may be either in English or French and can be displayed anywhere on the container, except the bottom. Where a prepackaged product is manufactured or produced outside of Canada, the application of any of the following formats will satisfy the regulations:

- the name and address of the dealer outside Canada; or
- the statement of geographic origin located immediately adjacent to the name and address of a Canadian dealer; or
- the name and address of a Canadian dealer preceded by the words "imported by/importé par" or "imported for/importé pour."

The province of Quebec has additional requirements concerning the French language. For example, no text in any language may be more prominent than the French text. To learn more visit http://www.olf.gouv.qc.ca/english/infoguides/Guide_anglais.PDF on-line, or contact the Office de la langue française directly at:

800 Tour de la Place Victoria
Montreal, Quebec H4Z 1G8
Telephone: (514) 873-6565

Exemptions

Certain products are exempt from all requirements governing the *Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act and Regulations*. They are as follows: drugs and medical devices, commercial, industrial, or institutional use only products, products sold exclusively to duty-free stores, prepackaged textile articles, replacement parts for consumer durables if not displayed to the consumer, as well as certain artistic supplies.

Additional Information for U.S. Exporters of Hazardous/Harmful Products

There are specific requirements for products with potentially harmful, toxic, corrosive, and/or flammable contents, as well as for pressurized containers. U.S. exporters need to be particularly cognizant of regulations regarding consumer safety warnings and product information declarations. For more information about Canadian classification requirements, U.S. exporters should check the most recent Consumer Chemicals and Containers Regulations, 2001 (CCCR-2001), accessible on-line at <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/legislation/acts-lois/consumerchemicals-eng.php>. Refer to the link for the Guidelines & Reference Manual to the CCCR-2001 at http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/pubs/indust/cccr-2001-rpccc/ref_man/index-eng.php and proposed amendments to the CCCR-2001 at <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/legislation/acts-lois/techni-eng.php>

Exporters of hazardous products can connect with a consumer Product Safety Officer at Health Canada by calling (905) 572-2845. Product Safety Officers can also provide contact information on **consumer packaging consultants**.

Resources & Contacts

Competition Bureau, Industry Canada
Health Canada

For More Information

The U.S. Commercial Service in Toronto, Canada can be contacted via e-mail at: ruth.williamson@mail.doc.gov; Phone: (416) 595-5412, ext. 238; Fax: (416) 595-5419; or visit our website: www.buyusa.gov/canada.

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Comments and Suggestions: We welcome your comments and suggestions regarding this market research. You can e-mail us your comments/suggestions to: Customer.Care@mail.doc.gov. Please include the name of the applicable market research in your e-mail. We greatly appreciate your feedback.

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