

Korea: Product Safety Profile



Principal website:

Legislative framework

The *Framework Act on Product Safety (2013)* and the individual acts according to product characteristics such as *Quality Control and Safety Management of Industrial Products Act* and *Electrical Appliances Safety Control Act* have the provisions to protect consumers from the risk of consumer products. Each law allows for the ban of products which may cause any danger or harm to consumers and the withdrawal of the products.

Also, the *Framework Act on Consumers (2012)* stipulates the surveillance by collecting injury data of every consumer goods regardless of types. According to the law, the authorities can propose or order a recall, a withdrawal on the products which don't have the safety standards to satisfy, if necessary to businesses.

Web reference: www.kca.go.kr/web/img/kca/eng/laws/Framework_Act_on_Consumers.pdf

How are the rules for product requirements set?

The safety standards for consumer safety are established after promulgation and acceptance of opinions in accordance with *Administrative Procedures Act*.

How are goods prohibited from sale for safety reasons?

If the consumer products pose any danger or harm or do not conform to the safety standards, the goods can be prohibited according to the relevant provisions of the laws.

Moreover, regardless of product characteristics, the Framework Act on Consumers forbids products which are dangerous or are deemed to pose harm to consumers.

Web reference:
www.kca.go.kr/web/img/eng/10_1%20FRAMEWORK%20ACT%20ON%20CONSUMER.doc
(see Articles 46 to 50),

<http://www.smartconsumer.go.kr>^a,

www.safetykorea.kr

^aThe website provides information on quality comparisons and recall of all items.

Are there notification requirements?

Framework Act on Product Safety states that if any enterprise has found that there exist any seriously defective goods, it must report the defects to the head of the competent central

administrative agency (including electronic report). In that case, the retailer should report about the defect of the products which do not have any standards to conform to the director as well. Other necessary matters which the enterprise is required to report can be determined by the Presidential Decree.

Web

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Are there likely to be any changes to regulatory arrangements?

None