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Market Surveillance Action for TYRES 2015 (MSTyr15) Newsletter no 4 - April 2018

The **Market Surveillance Action for Tyres 2015 (MSTyr15)** is an EU-funded project coordinated by PROSAFE, which started in March 2016 and will end on 30 June 2018.

Over the project lifetime, fifteen Market Surveillance Authorities (MSAs) from the EU and Turkey have been carrying out inspections of passenger car tyres, reviewing their labels and technical documentations. Following this, some products were sampled and sent to an accredited laboratory for Wet Grip (WG) and Rolling Resistance (RR) tests. The results obtained were discussed by the MSAs during the project meeting related to Inspection and Tests, which took place on 12 April 2018 in Brussels. The main findings are described below.

Inspection results

The inspections of labels carried out in the shops revealed that 565 (6.3 %) tyres were non-compliant out of 8,977 checked, whereas inspections of label information on the suppliers' websites showed that 627 (21.8 %) tyres out of 2,879 were non-compliant. Non-compliances found included absent labels, labels displaying incorrect data or omitting it, and the lack of information concerning the label on the bill.

Verification of documentation

747 economic operators (dealers, importers, manufacturers and representatives) were requested to provide the technical documentation within two weeks, which proved difficult for them to accomplish. For instance, in more than 40% of the cases, the time needed for the provision of the relevant documents was between 40 and 60 days. In 10% of the cases no documentation was received at all. Furthermore, according to the information available on the labels, WG was tested against the UNECE regulation 117 instead of the European Commission Regulation 1222/2009¹. It was also not clear from the labels, if the tests refer to a given model or a series and which series.

Enforcement activities

Members have agreed on a common approach to enforcement actions for the products that were found to be non-compliant concerning Labelling, Technical Documentation and the results of the Test. The products will be re-labelled, withdrawn or sanctioned. Thus the results will be added to the Information and Communication System on Market Surveillance database (ICSMS²) of the European Commission and sent to all EU Member States and Turkey via the Tyres Administrative Cooperation Group (ADCO).

The main results of the Joint Action

Overall, the results are generally positive, i.e. in most cases the tested tyres were found to be compliant with the Regulations, but some significant discrepancies were found on the correctness and completeness of the labelling and of the technical documentation.

¹ A consolidated version can be found at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1493985219864&uri=CELEX:02009R1222-20120530>

² ICSMS platform: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/icsms/>

The main problems encountered were getting the correct information in shops and on the web, the availability, suitability and completeness of the technical documentation.

On the other hand, the labelled classes for most of the tyre models tested are in line with the declared classes both for Wet Grip (WG) and Rolling Resistance (RR). Only 16 (12%) tyres from the total tested number of 131, did not meet the requirements for WG and 19 (14.5%) did not meet the requirements for RR. According to the provisions of the Regulation (EC) No 1222/2009, the testing procedures have been repeated for three additional samples, in order to confirm non-compliance. Preliminary results indicate that only 4 types of tyres are non-compliant for WG, and 9 are non-compliant for RR.

One positive outcome is the increased awareness of consumers and some suppliers and dealers through the support offered by the European Tyre & Rubber Manufacturers' Association (ETRMA) and the Imported Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ITMA) to the project and the communication materials distributed by the MSAs. Another positive outcome is the gained competence of the participating MSAs, thanks to trainings and national workshops organised in the frame of the Joint Action.

Communication and Dissemination Activities

To maximise the impact of these activities, national events targeting manufacturers, suppliers, dealers, professional associations, consumers and partner organisations have been organised within the following participating countries: Bulgaria, Finland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Spain, Sweden and Turkey. MSTyr15 will also be promoted at the EU Sustainable Energy Week ([EUSEW](#)), the Policy Conference organised by PROSAFE in collaboration with ECOS on 5 June 2018 in Brussels.

Next Steps

Since the project will be finished on 30 June 2018, its [Final Conference](#) is planned together with the final meetings of the Advisory Board and the Management Team for **30 May 2018** and will be held at the offices of PROSAFE in Brussels. Next steps also include continuing of enforcement activities and publishing of the Final Report.

Contact and update

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Caution!

The above results are based on samples of products from the markets in the participating countries. As in any routine market surveillance activity, the results represent the targeted efforts that authorities undertake to identify unsafe and non-compliant products. They do not give a statistically valid picture of the situation of the whole market. Tests were undertaken at accredited laboratories and focussed on those requirements that have the largest impact on energy efficiency and consumer safety.

Disclaimer

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