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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS

RAPEX – a short brochure





1. What is a Rapid Alert System for dangerous non-food products?

RAPEX (Rapid Exchange of Information) database - is a system for the rapid exchange of information about unsafe products that are placed on the EU single market and which have been identified and reported by the competent authorities as unsafe. This database does not include food products, pharmaceuticals and medical devices / apparatus. A total of 31 countries are currently participating in this system - 28 EU Member States and EFTA / EEA countries: Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

The RAPEX system is fully complied with the General Product Safety Directive (GPSD, 2001/95 / EC). The RAPEX system is used to exchange information on product groups belonging to the so-called sector Directives and some New Approach Directives:  
- Toys Safety Directive  
- Low-voltage Directive  
- Machinery Directive EU

- Directive Concerning Cosmetic Products  
-Directives on Motor Vehicles  
-Personal Protective Equipment Directive

2. What measures can be taken?  
The rapid exchange of information is carried out through the contact points of the Member States and the European Commission, and includes measures taken in certain situations for the purpose of preventing or placing on the market or withdrawing from the market of products dangerous to health and consumer safety.  
The most common measures are: ban/stop on sales; withdrawal/recall of a dangerous product from the market; and import rejection by the customs authorities.

4. Does Bosnia and Herzegovina participate in the European Union System for Rapid Exchange of Information on Dangerous Consumer Products (RAPEX)?

The RAPEX system is still not directly applicable in Bosnia and Herzegovina, primarily for the following reason: access to RAPEX System for dangerous non-food consumer products is exclusively granted to the EU Member States. Given that BiH is not in the European Union, its access is limited to information published on the European Commission website related to RAPEX.

Market Surveillance Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina on December 09, 2009 signed the Licence Agreement with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Consumers (*DG SANCO*) by which the Agency is granted the licence to translate and publish weekly RAPEX notifications on its website in the official languages of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Through its website www.annt.gov.ba the Agency regularly informs consumers of RAPEX risk warnings and dangerous products withdrawn from the European Union market.

The RAPEX database is located at the following link:

<http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/archive/safety/rapex/index_en.htm>

3. What is covered by RAPEX?  
The system (scope of the system) covers dangerous non-food products intended for consumers (e.g. toys, cosmetics, clothing) and professionals (e.g. power drills, machines, construction products) which pose a serious risk to the health and safety of consumers (risks of injuries, chemical risks, etc.), as well as to various public interests such as environment (risk for trees, water, air, soil, etc. from dangerous chemicals contained in a product), health and safety at the workplace and public security.