

Department of Economic Security

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**Mr**  
**H. D' Hooge**  
**European Commission**  
[Hans.Dhooge@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Hans.Dhooge@ec.europa.eu)

In reference to the questions addressed to the Member States in a letter of 23 September 2014 issued by European Commission, we would like to present our stand on this matter.

There is no doubt that the assurance of innovation and sustainable development of European Union countries is a very important matter. In particular, it concerns Poland, whose importance in terms of quantity and value (as a manufacturer of aerosol products) is increasing each year. To ensure these conditions for growth, UE must first adapt regulations to technological progress. Revision of the Aerosol Directive (ADD) is undoubtedly essential to ensure the proper level of competitiveness of the EU market to countries, where successfully for many years are used aerosol containers made of plastic, with a capacity of more than 220ml. Made to date research on the packaging of up to 500ml, largely confirm the equivalent functionality of plastic packaging versus metallic packaging, but requires additional study to be done by an independent body supported: by a group of experts, the so-called "Steering Group" established with members of the European Commission, Member States and the FEA, as well as representatives of the data providers, established with manufacturers of packaging and aerosol filler. This solution assumes that further studies to confirm the parameters of packaging containing 1000ml are essential. It would speed up the work on developing the parameters and testing procedures for aerosol containers made of plastic, which are sufficient to confirm quality and safety in use, but assuming no re-examination of tried and tested parameters.

At the same time it seems reasonable that the standards should not be the elements of the Directive. These standards could be used to determine the parameters to be met by the packaging and the ready product for the level of the Directive. However, the modification

should be possible in less formal way than a change of the Directive. The standards which exist now as FEA are created and modified, allowing finally to create European standards.

We would like to point out that the proposed amendment is to ensure the development and contribute to a more innovation-based aerosols with compressed gases, providing the ability to use a maximum working pressure 15 bar at 50 ° C, while retaining all aspects of security of environment, people and physical product. It should be noted that there is a great need for greater use of propellants, which are neutral for the environment and the human, and an increase in pressure which will provide greater opportunity to improve product application parameters, without generating additional costs.

Therefore, we provide the following answer:

Reply in relation to action 1

Poland is interested in receiving materials proposed in Action 1. Full view in this case will allow deeper analysis and prepare a better position to take into account the views of all interested parties.

Reply in relation to action 2

2.1 Further study are required in relation to the impact of the shape and type of material for resistance to pressure and safe operation. The analysis of available research shows that there have been studies of resistance to fire. It seems reasonable to consider such research.

2.2 Future workings on the revision of the Directive in terms of the pressure increase of aerosols to 15 bar, using non-flammable gases, and to increase the volume to 500 ml for containers plastics are considered acceptable. This seems to be a compromise for all the concerned parties. However, in the event of the need to increase capacity (eg. To 1000 ml) tests must be conducted in accordance with established and approved test procedure for up to 500 ml.

2.3. UK considers that tests allowing for an evaluation of the expected, increased requirements for aerosol products must be performed by an independent and impartial research unit certified in accordance with the approved test procedure. Due to the expected range of future developments affecting the safety production, storage, transport and use, PL is inclined to consideration of the forms and extent of supervision by an independent third party.


2.4 Referring to the standard X6-647 E we believe that there is a need to assess the provisions contained in this document to meet the requirements of the ADD Directive in terms of the proposed changes. The requirements of this standard, and even extended one to certain requirements of British Standard should be approved at the level of European organizations, as standards to ensure compliance with the ADD Directive.

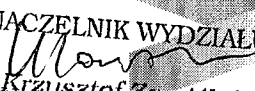
An alternative proposal could rely on the extension of the requirements contained in Annex I to ADD Directive, for those, who take into account the proposed, elevated parameters determined for aerosol products in particular plastic containers (pressure, volume) and also having regard to aspects such as, eg.:

- authorized types of technology for the production of aerosol containers;
- selection of plastics in terms of their physical and chemical properties to specific needs,
- restrictions on the shapes and sizes depending on the individual containers, which may be offered for aerosols.

The transforming ADD Directive to a new approach Directive would be solution very good. However, given the longevity of the legislative process, we should not expect that this proposal would arouse a widespread interest in the industry.

  
GŁÓWNY SPECJALISTA  
Ewa Garstka

  
DYREKTOR  
Krzysztof Zawislak  
07 300115

  
NACZELNIK WYDZIAŁU  
Krzysztof Zawislak  
30/04/2010

Ministry of Economy  
Pl. Trzech Krzyży 3/5  
00-507 Warsaw

tel +48 22 693 50 00  
fax +48 22 693 40 46

email [mg@mg.gov.pl](mailto:mg@mg.gov.pl)  
web [www.mg.gov.pl](http://www.mg.gov.pl)