

Newsletter from PROSAFE

**Joint Market Surveillance Action 2011
Testing of Lawnmowers Completed**

The Joint Action 2011 has recently completed the testing of 25 lawnmowers. Two thirds of the tested lawnmowers did not comply with the safety requirements. The results of these and the other product tests in this Joint Action will be at the final conference of the Action 19 February 2014 - so mark the date already now.

PROSAFE and its members have been undertaking joint market surveillance activities on lawnmowers. The purpose has been to check whether only lawnmowers that are safe are placed on the market and to improve collaboration among market surveillance authorities across the EEA.

The activities involved 8 Member States and EFTA-EEA working together to make the Joint Actions, which was funded with support from the European Commission.

The participating market surveillance authorities carried out market surveys at retailers, wholesalers and manufacturers prior to agreeing together which types of lawnmowers should be tested and which types of tests should be undertaken.

Powered lawnmowers need to comply with a number of different Directives;

- Machinery Directive (is it safe?)
- Noise emission in the environment by equipment for use outdoors (is it not too noisy?)
- Electromagnetic Compatibility (does it cause interference with other equipment?)

Following the market study, 25 domestic lawnmowers comprising: 7 robotics, 4 cordless walk behind (electrical), 7 corded walk behind (electrical) and 7 petrol walk behind were tested at an accredited expert laboratory.

The results were that:

- There were no remarks in 32% of the tests.
- The tests revealed non-compliances in the remaining 68% of the cases.
- Just under half of these were considered to be major non-compliances

Actions in respect of these non-compliant lawnmowers are currently being undertaken by the countries concerned.

PLEASE NOTE!

These results are based on samples from the lawnmower markets in the participating countries. As in any other routine market surveillance activity, the results represent the targeted efforts that authorities undertake to identify unsafe products.

They do not give a statistically valid picture of the market situation.

The market surveillance on lawnmowers is one activity in PROSAFE's Joint Action 2011. This Joint Action also includes market surveillance activities against battery chargers, fireworks, baby bathtubs and wheeled child conveyances. All results and findings from the Action will be presented at a final conference that is being organized in Brussels 19 February 2014.

Background information

The information on lawnmowers in this Newsletter release is issued by PROSAFE and the 8 participating countries in the Joint Action on Lawnmowers: the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Latvia, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal and Romania.

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The Action is coordinated by PROSAFE, a non-profit organisation that brings together (officials of) Market Surveillance Authorities from all over Europe.

On our website (www.prosafe.org) more information can be found about other Joint Actions coordinated by PROSAFE.

Disclaimer

This newsletter arises from the Joint Market Surveillance Action 2011 on GPSD Products - JA 2011, which receives funding from the European Union in the framework of the 'Programme of Community Action in the field of Consumer Policy (2007-2013)'.

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