

# CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY OFFICE

Reference : CPSO-171221-03  
Date : 17 December 2021  
To : Registered Suppliers  
Subject : Legal action taken for the supply of non-registered Controlled Goods

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Dear Registered Suppliers,

The purpose of this circular is to highlight the recent legal action taken against a Registered Supplier (RS) for the supply of non-registered ceiling fans and water heaters.

2. Under the Singapore Consumer Protection (Safety Requirements) Regulations (CPSR), ceiling fans and water heaters are required to be tested and certified to specified safety standards, registered with the Consumer Product Safety Office<sup>1</sup> (CPSO) and affixed with the SAFETY Mark before they can be supplied in Singapore.

3. Investigations by the CPSO revealed that the RS had supplied 17 models of ceiling fans and 1 model of water heater that were unregistered or had expired SAFETY Marks. In addition, investigations revealed that six models of ceiling fans had failed safety tests.

4. The RS was subsequently prosecuted in Court and pleaded guilty to 25 charges for supplying unregistered ceiling fans and water heaters and selling them with invalid SAFETY Marks affixed. The RS was fined a total of S\$123,000 by the State Courts. 17 other charges for similar offences were taken into consideration for the purposes of sentencing.

5. The RS claimed that they were supplying the unregistered Controlled Goods for export and only supplied to the consumers after informing them that the export models were not registered and affixed with SAFETY Marks. We would like to reiterate that the supply (or advertisement for supply) of unregistered Controlled Goods for use in local households remains an offence under the CPSR regardless of whether the product has been labelled “for export only” and even if it has been conveyed to customers that the product is not intended for use in Singapore households. RS are reminded to ensure that all products which are intended for use in households are validly registered. RS are also reminded to check on the validity period for registration to ensure that the registration of the products supplied are still valid (and has not yet expired) at the time of supply.

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<sup>1</sup> The Consumer Product Safety Office (CPSO) is an office overseen by Enterprise Singapore

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6. The RS had also affixed SAFETY Marks bearing Allocated Certification Numbers instead of valid certification numbers on certain models of fans. We wish to highlight that the allocation of certification numbers (if requested by the RS) is intended to assist the RS in making advance preparations for the markings on their Controlled Goods. Allocated Certification Numbers are not valid certification numbers and do not imply that the Controlled Goods have been certified by the Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) or registered with the CPSO. Trade, supply, or advertisement of Controlled Goods should only be done after and upon registration, and receipt of the Certificate of Conformity from their appointed CAB, and Acknowledgement Receipt for Certificate of Conformity (LoA) from the CPSO.

7. We would like to emphasize that RS remain solely responsible and liable for ensuring the Controlled Goods supplied by them comply with the CPSR requirements. They must ensure that the number for the SAFETY Mark affixed to their Controlled Goods corresponds to the certification number as indicated on the LoA, prior to trade, supply or advertisement of the Controlled Good. They also need to ensure the Controlled Goods are the same models that were registered with the CPSO. Ignorance or negligence are not defences for non-compliance under the CPSR.

## Penalty under the Act and Regulation

8. Our enforcement officers conduct regular checks on suppliers to ensure Controlled Goods supplied in Singapore are compliant with the CPSR. CPSO takes a serious view towards suppliers who do not comply with the requirements under the CPSR and will not hesitate to take legal action. Any person found guilty of selling unregistered Controlled Goods, is liable upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding S\$10,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or both, per charge.

9. For further enquiries, you may contact the CPSO at 6898 1800 or [consumerproductsafety@enterprisesg.gov.sg](mailto:consumerproductsafety@enterprisesg.gov.sg).

Issued by:

The Consumer Product Safety Office

*This is a computer-generated circular and no signature is required.*