



Notification Number: 2012/15/UK

The Video Recordings (Labelling) Regulations 2012.

Date received : 11/01/2012

End of Standstill : 12/04/2012

Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - SG(2012) D/520

Directive 98/34/EC

Notificación - Oznámení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notification - Notifica - Pieteikums - Pranešimas - Bejelentés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificação - Hlášenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan - Нотификация : 2012/0015/UK - Notificare.

No abre el plazo - Nezahtuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Nao inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201200020.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2012 0015 UK EN 11-01-2012 UK NOTIF

2. Member State

UK

3. Department Responsible

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
Knowledge & Innovation Group
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET.

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3. Originating Department

Department for Culture, Media and Sport

4. Notification Number



2012/0015/UK - X40M

5. Title

The Video Recordings (Labelling) Regulations 2012.

6. Products Concerned

The draft technical regulation applies to the labelling of video recordings in the UK. It applies to the supply of films and some video games (those suitable for persons aged 12 years and over) - in the form of physical discs, magnetic tape and other storage devices.

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

The Video Recordings (Labelling) Regulations 2012 are made under section 8 of the Video Recordings Act 1984 and will supersede the current labelling regulations. These regulations stipulate new requirements for the labelling of video games. The 1984 Act regulates the supply of films and some video games in the form of the physical product (such as discs, magnetic tape and other physical storage devices). The labelling regulations require an indication as to the classification certificate issued by the designated authority to be shown on the video recording and also on the container or outer casing in which the video recording is supplied. The new requirements for labelling of video games will only apply to those games that are suitable for persons aged 12 years and over. Such video games will be required to be classified (age rated) and labelled by the Video Standards Council using the Pan-European Games Information system (PEGI). The age rating awarded by the PEGI system will be required to be shown on the video recording itself and the casing or cover in which it is contained. Unless exempt, it will be an offence under the 1984 Act to supply a film or video game in breach of the labelling requirements set down by these regulations.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The Video Recordings (Labelling) Regulations 2012 will come into force at the same time as certain provisions of the Digital Economy Act 2010 are commenced (namely, sections 40, 41 and Schedule 1). These legislative changes will provide for better control in the supply and distribution of video games in the UK and so better protect children and consumers. These changes together implement the recommendations set out in an independent review commissioned by the Prime Minister in 2007, and undertaken by Professor Tanya Byron, to assess (amongst other things) the risks children face from video games. Also a public consultation was undertaken on the video games classification system and the future structure of it. At present only video games that contain explicit sex, gross violence or other matters of concern are required to be classified in the UK. The legislative changes will mean that all video games suitable for viewing by persons aged 12 years and over must be classified by the Video Standards Council and they must be labelled in accordance with the PEGI (age rating) system for supply in the UK. The PEGI system is already in use across many other European countries. The labelling requirement set down by these Regulations will ensure that key information is provided to consumers when buying video games.

The Digital Economy Act provisions were forwarded to the Commission within the framework of a previous notification - 2009/0664/UK; also, The Video Recordings Act 1984 and the existing labelling regulations were forwarded under a previous notification - 2009/0495/UK.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts



Basic Texts have been forwarded within the framework of a previous notification: 2009/0495/UK: 2009/0664/UK

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

15. Impact assessment

Yes

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect

No - The draft has no significant impact on international trade

SPS aspect

No - The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure

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