

PRESS RELEASE

SUBSTANDARD HAND SANITIZERS

Nairobi, 8th August 2020 ... KEBS wishes to inform the public that its mandate entails consumer protection against substandard products that might be harmful to or compromise their health and safety. KEBS conducts factory inspections, product certifications and market surveillance activities to monitor the quality of products sold to Kenyans at various points of sale to give an assurance to the public on the status of the products they buy. As part of product certification scheme, KEBS issues standardization mark permits to manufacturers for products whose compliance to established standards has been ascertained.

It is also our responsibility to keep the public informed on the compliance status of products, including hand sanitizers and disinfectants, to enable consumers make informed choices.

Following the declaration of the novel corona virus disease (COVID-19) as a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the attendant recommendations to use sanitizers as a means of mitigating the spread, there has been an upsurge in demand for this category of products.

Following market surveillance activities, KEBS wishes to communicate to the public the list of hand sanitizers that have been ascertained as not meeting the requirements of **KS EAS 789; Kenya Standard specification for Instant Hand Sanitizers**. This standard has set the minimum requirement of the alcohol content at 60%v/v among other parameters that must be complied with before the products are certified and issued with the mandatory standardization mark permits and offered for sale.

Sanitizers contain antiseptic properties or agents that when used disinfects the hands and can be used on their own when soap and water is not available. They protect users by eliminating or reducing viruses, bacteria and other disease-causing pathogens. Therefore, the use of none compliant sanitizers would dupe Kenyans into a false sense of security that they have properly sanitized thereby undermining the efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19.

It is against this background that we share with the public the below listed substandard/none-compliant sanitizers which have been found not to meet the standard and whose permits have been suspended with immediate effect to enable consumers make informed choices that will help to 'flatten the curve' of spread and infection of COVID-19. The public shall also be informed once these anomalies have been corrected and the products are conforming.

LIST OF SUBSTANDARD SANITIZERS CURRENTLY BEING SOLD TO THE PUBLIC

S. NO.	MANUFACTURER	BRAND NAME
1	Cascade industries limited P.O BOX 52088-00200 Nairobi	Scental
2	Amua industries	Super-guard
3	Flame tree Africa Limited, Nairobi	Zoe
4	Spectra Chemicals (k) Ltd	Safi
5	Chandaria Industries	Velvex
6	Mayim Chayim Ltd	MCL
7	Goodlife pharmacy Africa Ltd	Goodlife
8	Tania East Africa Ltd BOX 32172 -00600 Nairobi	Spot X
9	Nine yards Holding	Max
10	Impact Chemicals Ltd, Nairobi	Duogel
11	Ellena products (k) Ltd	Ellena
12	Alison products (k) Ltd	Alison's
13	Afrigo Kenya Ltd BOX 760 -00511, Rongai	Banlo
14	Yarash Products Company Ltd	Rak
15	Import from Indonesia	Lovillea
16	Latest International Investments BOX 340 00507 Nairobi	Latest
17	Jomasons Enterprises BOX 8000 00200 Nairobi	Eripride
18	C.CI LTD BOX 62108 00200 Nairobi	Clean Hands
19	Sphinx Pharmaceutical ltd.	Disanita
20	Suprima Industries Kenya Ltd BOX 1485 -00100 Nairobi	Skin Mate
21	Amna Industries P.O BOX 79107-00400 Nairobi	Super-guard
22	Not indicated	Palm maximum
23	Embechem graphics enterprises	Quick Hand
24	Ruysun Products, ruysun2020@gmail.com	Ruysun Advance
25	Barjor chemicals P.O BOX 69248-00622 Nairobi	Vesrose
26	Kenbrand investments ltd	LiLi
27	Not indicated	O-Rie
28	Vitafoam Ltd. P.O. Box 18094(00500) Nairobi, Kenya E:sales@vitafoam.co.ke	Vitaclean
29	Priderock Emporium Ltd. Forest Line Road Ngong Hills Box 5193-00200 Nairobi Email: priderock2014@gmail.com	Antiseptic Vibes
30	Palvene Sterile Chemical BOX 56948-00200 Nairobi	Palvene

Consequently, the manufacturers of the said products are instructed to discontinue manufacturing or offering for sale the affected sanitizers. The manufacturers are required to recall all the substandard sanitizers from the market and institute corrective actions whose effectiveness shall be confirmed by KEBS before the suspension of permits is lifted. Manufacturers are advised to strictly adhere to marking and labelling

requirements as per the relevant Standard. In addition, manufacturers shall state the composition of the sanitizers.

Please note that any person who contravenes any of the provisions of subsections of the Standards Act, Cap 496, and Laws of Kenya mentioned above or fails to comply with any conditions in a permit, shall be guilty of an offence. We encourage the general public to “**Wajibika Na KEBS**” and be on the lookout for products suspected to be substandard. **Wajibika Na KEBS** is a program that allows the public to report cases about substandard products. **To Wajibika**, verify whether the **S Mark permit** on your product is valid by sending the code underneath the **S Mark to 20023 (SM#Code)** to get product validity status details. If the details are different, report to **KEBS Toll Free 1545** during official working **hours of 8.00 AM to 1.00 PM and 2.00 PM to 5.00 PM, Monday to Friday**.

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About KEBS

Editor’s Notes: Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) is a statutory body established under the Standards Act (CAP 496) of the laws of Kenya and is a member of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). KEBS’ mandate is to provide standardization and conformity assessment services. Beyond that, KEBS seeks to provide standardization solutions for sustainable development.

For more information, please contact KEBS Corporate Communication;

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