

INFORMATION SESSION ON CE MARKING AND RAPEX

CE Marking

We note that the 'CE' mark is affixed to a number of products we buy every day as European consumers. It is found on many products traded in the extended [Single Market](#) and in the [European Economic Area \(EEA\)](#) – such as phones and other electrical products, construction products and toys, amongst others.

The affixing of the CE marking to a product means, that the product has been assessed to meet high safety, health, and environmental protection requirements, meets all the legal requirements for CE marking and can be sold throughout the EEA. The CE marking also supports fair competition by holding the manufacturers and importers accountable to the same rules.

There are two main benefits CE marking brings to businesses and consumers within the EEA:

- Businesses know that products bearing the CE marking can be traded in the EEA without restrictions.
- Consumers enjoy the same level of health, safety, and environmental protection throughout the entire EEA.

The CE marking is part of the EU's harmonisation legislation, which is mainly managed by [Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs](#). The CE marking for Restriction of Hazardous Substances is managed by [Directorate-General for Environment](#). Comprehensive guidance on the implementation of EU product rules can be found in the so-called [Blue Guide](#).

Information on CE marking in each EU Member States can be found in the [Enterprise Europe Network](#) or [contact points in the EEA](#).

Rapid Alert System (RAPEX)

RAPEX is the term referring to [Rapid Alert System](#) for dangerous non-food products set up under [Directive 2001/95/EC](#). The System enables quick exchange of information between the [national authorities](#) of 31 European countries ([EU-28](#) and 3 [EFTA/EEA](#) countries) and the European Commission about dangerous non-food products posing a

risk to health and safety of consumers, thus allowing other member countries to screen their market and take appropriate action should the same product be found.

If a manufacturer or distributor finds out that one of their products on sale is dangerous, they have to inform the competent [national contact point](#) in charge of receiving and dealing with alerts of dangerous non-food consumer products. In the case of Malta, the National Rapex Contact Point is the Technical Regulations Division of the MCCA.

The Commission publishes [weekly reports](#) on the alerts reported by national authorities, which include information on the dangerous products found, the risks identified and the measures taken in the notifying country in order to prevent or restrict their marketing or use. Measures can be ordered by national authorities ("compulsory measures") or taken directly by economic operators, such as producer or distributor ("voluntary measures"). Each alert also includes information on other countries where the same product has been found and further measures taken.

The Commission also publishes [monthly reports](#) on Rapid Alert System notifications and reactions. Notifications consist of information provided by the Rapid Alert System network participating countries, concerning measures or actions taken for products presenting risk to the public interests. A reaction is information in response to a submitted notification, which provides information on whether the notified dangerous product was also found in other network countries, and which measures were taken there in order to restrict its marketing and distribution.

Malta, through the MCCA, is very active on this network and regularly notifies around 25 to 35 products posing a serious risk to users, whilst also informs the economic operators of hundreds of products notified on the Rapex system by other Member States.

Lastly, the European Commission publishes [annual reports](#) that present the main developments in product safety over the years. The reports also give an overview of the Rapid Alert System in terms of notifications of risks and reactions by participating countries.