

FY2003 Market Monitoring Test Results

Sample purchase test related to the Household Goods Quality Labeling Law

“Umbrellas”

(National Institute of Technology and Evaluation)

In FY2003, NITE conducted a sample purchase test of “Umbrellas” to confirm their compliance with the quality labeling regulations for miscellaneous manufactured goods (hereinafter referred to as “labeling regulations”) under the Household Goods Quality Labeling Law.

NITE purchased 22 sample products available in the market; 10 umbrellas, 6 parasols, 4 sun-shade umbrellas, 1 beach parasol and 1 garden parasol.

Following results, 10 samples were deemed noncompliant with the labeling regulations.

The noncompliance items included labeling for composition of fiber of cloth in 7 samples, length of ribs in 4 samples and labeler’s information in 2 samples.

Details of the identified noncompliance items are as follows:

Noncompliant item	# of samples (*)	
Composition of fiber of cloth		
● No labeling for embroidery thread which accounted for more than 5% of the total	(2)	7
● Incorrect composition labeling for embroidery thread	(1)	
● Inadequate labeling for embroidery thread	(1)	
● Incorrect composition of fibers beyond acceptable error range	(1)	
● No labeling for composition of fibers	(1)	
● Contained no designated terms for names of fibers	(1)	
● Inconsistent labeling; name of fibers differed between hang tag and sewn-on label	(1)	
● No labeling for parts where the fibers were used	(2)	
● Length of ribs differed beyond the acceptable range of error (± 5 mm)	(4)	4
● Labeler’s official name was not indicated	(1)	2
● Labeler’s address was incorrect	(1)	

(*) Each noncompliant item is counted cumulatively when a product has multiple noncompliant items.

Note: Section 2, Article 7 of the labeling regulations defines “in determining the composition ratio of textile goods, labelers may exclude the fibers or fabrics used to increase the efficacy of specific parts such as embroidery, reinforcement or piping, when they account for 5% or less of total composition”. The fibers or fabrics which account for over 5% are subject to the labeling requirements.

NITE presented the test results to noncompliant labelers and conducted hearings with them for their opinions and measures to be taken. The results of the hearings, together with the test results, were reported to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). Based on the test results, METI has given administrative guidance to the relevant labelers.