

## FY2006 Market Monitoring Test Results

**Sample purchase test related to the Household Goods Quality Labeling Law**

**“Apparel made of Leather or Synthetic Leather”**

(National Institute of Technology and Evaluation)

In FY2006, NITE conducted a sample purchase test of “Apparel that is made wholly or partially from leather or synthetic leather” 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 20 sample clothing items available in the market for the test; 8 samples made of natural leather and 12 samples made of synthetic leather. These products are required to indicate kind of material, handling precautions, labeler’s name and so on.

If the products are partially made of textiles, they also need to declare compositions of fibers under the labeling regulations for textile goods. In this case, labelers can choose the labeling method (textile or miscellaneous goods) for handling precautions according to the nature of the product.

Following results, 8 samples were deemed noncompliant with the labeling regulations for miscellaneous goods and textile goods. One sample did not provide handling precautions.

Noncompliance items included insufficient labeling for the required items.

The labeling for 10 of the samples mentioned resin deterioration in their handling precautions. One sample also indicated the date of manufacture.

In addition, there were 11 synthetic leather goods using materials coated with polyurethane resin or fabrics impregnated with polyurethane resin.

Particulars to be declared	Noncompliant item	# of samples
Handling precautions	The product contained no handling instructions.	1

Particulars to be declared	Noncompliant item	# of samples (*)
Kind of material Fabric composition	The labeling failed to include terms for material types or designated terms indicating fabrics.	3
	The products failed to provide labeling for designated parts.	2
	The products contained different materials or fibers from the ones on the labeling.	2
Handling precautions	The product contained no care labeling.	1
Domestic washing and other handling methods	The products indicated no designated precautions.	4
	The labeling did not use designated symbols.	1

Labeler's name	The labeler failed to include its proper name. (Only its English name was indicated on the tag.) Also, labeler's name and contact were not included in the sewn-on label.	1
	The products did not indicate labeler's proper name.	3
	The product failed to contain labeler's contact details.	1
Labeling manner	The product provided inconsistent instructions. A symbol for ironing did not correspond to the written instructions.	1

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

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 result, METI has given administrative guidance to the relevant labelers.