

FY2006 Market Monitoring Test Results

Sample purchase test related to the Household Goods Quality Labeling Law

“Over garments and Coats”

(National Institute of Technology and Evaluation)

In FY2006, NITE conducted a sample purchase test of “Over garments and Coats (clothing made of fabrics coated with polyurethane synthetic fibers or fabrics impregnated with polyurethane resin – excluding synthetic leather) to confirm their compliance with the quality labeling regulations for textile goods (hereinafter referred to as “labeling regulations”) under the Household Goods Quality Labeling Law.

The test also confirmed voluntary labeling of “handling precautions concerning the deterioration of synthetic resins derived from polyurethane, etc.” which is not required under the labeling regulations.

NITE purchased 10 samples of over garments (raincoats and jackets) available in the market, which were made of fabrics believed to be coated with polyurethane synthetic fibers or fabric impregnated with polyurethane resin, for the test.

These products are required to indicate composition of fibers, domestic washing and other handling methods, labeler’s name, etc.

Following results, 4 samples were deemed noncompliant with the labeling regulations. Also, polyurethane resin was found in only 6 of the 10 samples.

The leading noncompliance items were failures to declare the compositions of fibers for the designated parts.

In addition, no samples mentioned resin deterioration in the handling precautions.

Particulars to be declared	Noncompliant item	# of samples (*)
Composition of fibers	The products failed to provide labeling for designated parts.	2
	The separately labeled parts were indistinct.	1
	In the separately labeled parts, voluntary and statutory labeling was mixed and difficult to differentiate.	1
	The labeling used no designated terms.	1
Domestic washing and other handling methods	The product contained no designated labeling using symbols.	1
Labeler’s name	The labeler’s contact details on the outer package were insufficient.	2
	The labeling sewn into the products contained no contact details.	

(*) 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 results, METI has given administrative guidance to the relevant labelers.