Tuesday, 9 July 2019

Contribution of Consumer Protection to Product Safety Initiative

Submission by The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Product Safety Initiative
(A Saudi Vision 2030 Initiative)
July 2019
Challenges and Initiative Purpose

Initiative Concept and Fundamentals

Initiative Deliverables

Saber

Partners

Next Steps
As part of Saudi Vision 2030, many trade challenges were addressed and need to be resolved by Product Safety Initiative.

**Challenges**

1. 90% of consumer **goods** are imported

2. 25k registered **importers**

3. 2M kilometers of **land** with centralized gov’t regulator

**Initiative Purpose**

Protecting **safety** and public health by addressing and preventing hazards arising from the **introduction of unsafe products** in the Kingdom, whether **locally** produced or **imported**.

*It includes all products or categories of products except food, animal feed and pharmaceutical products.*
The main concept of the initiative, is to shift Saudi conformity model into trust-based model.
To adopt the new model, SASO worked with its partners in three main fundamentals:

1. **Technical pillar**: develop efficient procedures for standards, technical regulations, sampling of products, market survey, etc.
2. **Institutional pillar**: strengthen the institutional structure competent to deal with product safety in the Kingdom.
3. **Legal pillar**: consolidate the legal basis available by adopting a law on general product safety.

**Conformity Model**

- Trust
  - Incentives
  - Innovations
  - Competitiveness
  - Promotions
  - Added Value
  - Better Quality Products
- Conservative
  - Target
  - Technical Regulations
    - Border Control
    - Pre-packaged goods
  - Market Surveillance
  - Sanctions

**Fundamentals**

- **Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization - 2019**
Tangible deliverables were developed with Quality Infrastructure System (QIS) experts from all over the world based on best practices.

### Initiative Deliverables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65%</td>
<td>Drafts of <strong>new laws</strong> on <strong>product safety</strong> and <strong>market surveillance</strong>, law on <strong>standards</strong> and <strong>quality</strong>, law on <strong>accreditation</strong>, law on <strong>metrology</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88%</td>
<td>Several <strong>technical regulations</strong> revised according to best international practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98%</td>
<td><strong>SASO organizational structure</strong> revised namely in order to prevent potential conflicts in the implementation of product-safety related tasks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>New <strong>procedures prepared</strong> on <strong>market survey</strong>, <strong>sampling</strong> techniques and <strong>market surveillance</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90%</td>
<td>Design of a <strong>national web-based system</strong> for the rapid exchange of <strong>information on dangerous products</strong> (so-called RASID)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Developing the notification scheme for conformity assessment bodies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Launching the enhancements of Electronic Systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What is Saber?

- A Web-based Applications designed by SASO for registering Certificate of Conformity for Products and generating shipments certificate. Further, it enables the CBs to submit their application to SASO through electronic system.
- Saber system provides integration(real synchronization) with related entities such as Customs.
- It helps traders and importers to build database for their products.
Stakeholders

Certification body

liaison officers

Traders

Saudi Customs

SASO

SABER
- Registration of installations and addition of products.
- Registration of certificates of conformity for local and imported products that are regulated.
- Registration of consignment certificates for regulated and non-regulated products.
- Issuing a self-certification certificate for non-regulated products.
Current situation with Saber

Regulated

Importer → Add a Product → Classification 1 → Select CB → CB → Issue COC 1 → Issue COC 2 → Issue certificate of shipment → Customs

Not Regulated

Importer → Add a Product → Classification 3 → Automatic Validation → Issue Self-declaration → Issue certificate of shipment → Customs
The key success of developing and implementing an effective product safety methodology is to work closely with the related government agencies.
The initiative started lately in 2016, and our target is to reach 80% of products conforming to standards by 2020.

**Time Line & Next Steps**

- **2016**: Initiative starts
- **2017**: Product Safety methodology
- **2018**: Product Safety Forum held in Riyadh
  - 66.8% Conformity Index
- **2019**: Products registration and tracking system (SABER)
  - 62% Conformity Index
- **2020**: Product Safety Forum will be held in Riyadh
  - 57.6% Conformity Index
Thank you, …… next product safety forum