

Proposal for Legal Inspection of Thermal Paper Commodities

By the Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI), Ministry of Economic Affairs

Background:

Thermal papers are mainly used for facsimile, point of sale (POS) receipts, labels and tickets, and are contacted by consumers in daily life. The coating layers of thermal papers are composed of Bisphenol A (BPA) as color developer and other chemical materials. BPA is a kind of Endocrine Disrupter Substances (EDS) and has been proven to be harmful to human health. According to the results of test performed by the BSMI on marketed products in early year 2011, more than 86% of thermal paper contained BPA. The BSMI, after having consulted with interested parties, intends to regulate the safety and physical performance of these products.

Proposed date of implementation:

- 1 December 2011

Products (HS/CCCN codes) covered:

HS/CCCN 4811.90.00.20.8 Facsimile recording paper, other than goods of the kind described in heading 48.03, 48.09 or 48.10.

Inspection standards:

- CNS 15447

Inspection items:

- Bisphenol A content

Conformity assessment procedures:

Monitoring Inspection or Registration of Product Certification (RPC) Scheme (Module II + III)

- **Monitoring Inspection**

Further information on the procedure is available on the BSMI web site at <http://www.bsmi.gov.tw/wSite/ct?xItem=4460&ctNode=811&mp=2>

- **Registration of Product Certification (RPC) Scheme**

Under this procedure, manufacturers must have their products type-tested by the BSMI or designated testing laboratories recognized by the BSMI (Module II) before applying for registration of their products. Manufacturers or importers will also be required to ensure by declaration (Module III) that all products made at their manufacturing facilities are in conformity with the prototypes submitted for type testing in Module II.

Products will be allowed to use the Commodity Inspection Mark, the letter "R" and the identification number given by the BSMI, after they are certified and registered with the BSMI. These products can then pass through customs directly without any further inspection. The application fee and annual fee for RPC is NT\$5,000 for each type of product, and a RPC certificate is valid for three years.

Further information on this procedure is also available on the BSMI web site at <http://www.bsmi.gov.tw/wSite/ct?xItem=4452&ctNode=811&mp=2>

Locations to apply for Monitoring Inspection or Registration of Product Certification:

- The BSMI or its branches.