L.N. 240 of 2000

QUALITY CONTROL (EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND LOCAL GOODS) ACT (CAP. 225)

Detergents and Related Products Order, 2000 (Order No. 48 of 2000)

IN exercise of the powers conferred by article 3 of the Quality Control (Exports, Imports and Local Goods) Act, the Malta Standards Authority has made the following Order:-

1.1 The title of this Order is the Detergents and Related Products Order, 2000 and may be referred to as Order No. 48 of 2000. Citation, commencement and scope.

1.2 This Order shall become operative on the 1st January, 2001, which date shall be notified by the Authority in the Gazette.

1.3 No person may sell or offer for sale or use any product which falls within the scope of this Mandatory Order unless it complies with the provisions of this Mandatory Order.

1.4 This Mandatory Order shall not apply to products intended exclusively for export.

2.1 For the purposes of this Mandatory Order, detergent shall mean that product the composition of which has been specially studied with a view to developing its detergent properties, and which is made up of essential constituents (surfactants) and, in general, additional constituents (adjuvants, intensifying agents, fillers, additives and other auxiliary constituents). Interpretation.

3.1 Subject to the provisions of paragraph 5.1, no person may place on the market or use any detergent where the average level of biodegradability of the surfactants contained therein is less than 90% for each of the following categories: anionic, cationic, non-ionic and ampholytic. Marketing and use of detergents.

3.2 The use of surfactants with an average level of biodegradability of not less than 90% must not, under normal conditions of use, be harmful to human or animal health.

3.3 Detergents and other products which are specifically intended for use in conjunction with detergents shall not contain more than 0.1% by weight of boron calculated as the element boron. Use of borates.

3.4 The analytical methods for the determination of boron shall be laid down by the Malta Standards Authority.

Labelling of detergents.

4.1 The following information must appear in legible, visible and indelible characters on the packaging in which the detergents are put up for sale to the consumer:

4.1.1 the name of the product,

4.1.2 the name or trade name and address or trademark of the party responsible for placing the product on the market.

The above information must appear on all documents accompanying detergents transported in bulk.

4.2 The information specified in paragraph 4.1 must appear in at least one of the following languages: Maltese, English, Italian.

Methods of testing.

5.1 The placing on the market and use of a detergent shall be prohibited if the level of biodegradability of the anionic surfactants contained therein is less than 80% determined on a single analysis in accordance with one of the methods specified in Article 1 of Council Directive 82/243/EEC.

5.2 The reference method (confirmatory test procedure) in the case of anionic surfactants shall be that described in the Annex to Council Directive 82/243/EEC.

5.3 The placing on the market and use of a detergent shall be prohibited if the level of biodegradability of the non-ionic surfactants contained therein is less than 80% determined on a single analysis in accordance with one of the methods specified in Article 2 of Council Directive 82/242/EEC.

5.4 The reference method (confirmatory test procedure) in the case of non-ionic surfactants shall be that described in the Annex to Council Directive 82/242/EEC.

Repeal of existing Mandatory Orders.

6.1 The following Mandatory Orders are hereby repealed:

6.1.1 Washing Up Liquids Order, 1980 (L.N. 88 of 1980);

6.1.2 General Purpose Washing Powder Order, 1982 (L.N. 69 of 1982);

6.1.3 Low Foaming Washing Powder Order, 1982 (L.N. 70 of 1982);

6.1.4 Fabric Conditioner Order, 1989 (L.N. 17 of 1989).