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Trade Policy Monitoring

Consumer Information About Goods

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Report Highlights:

Several amendments made in December 2004 to the Russian Law "On the Protection of Consumers' Rights" concerned food products. The law requires information to be provided to consumers but does not stipulate the format or method of delivery. The Russian Government will determine these details.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
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Executive Summary

Several amendments made in December 2004 to the Russian Law "On the Protection of Consumers' Rights" concerned consumer goods, including food products. Changes were made to the requirements for consumer information about goods (tasks, services) in the Article 10 of the Federal Law. An unofficial translation of the revised version of Article 10 is printed below. Although the law requires information be provided to consumers, it does not stipulate the format or method of delivery. The Russian government will determine these details in the future. Until now the most important regulation on the format of consumer information in food products has been the voluntary State Standard "Food Products. Information for Consumers. General Requirements" (GOST R 51074 – 2003), which was adopted in December 2004 (GAIN Report RS4065 *New Voluntary Russian Food Labeling Requirements*).

Requirements for Information About Goods (Tasks, Services) in the Federal Law "On the Protection of Consumers' Rights"

Begin unofficial translation.

Article 10. Information About Goods (Tasks, Services)

1. The manufacturer (executor or seller) shall be obliged to provide consumers necessary and reliable information about goods (tasks, services) in order for them to make a proper informed choice. With regards to particular types of goods (tasks, services), the list and methods of notifying consumers shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

2. Information about goods (tasks, services) shall contain the following:
the name of the technical regulation or other designation established by the laws of the Russian Federation on technical regulation and showing the mandatory confirmation of a commodity's conformity;
data on the basic consumer properties of goods (tasks, services); as for foodstuffs, information about their composition (including the names of food additives used in the process of making foodstuffs, of biologically active additives, information on the presence in foodstuffs of components produced with the use of organisms modified by genetic engineering), on food value, purpose, conditions of use and storage of foodstuffs, on the ways of cooking ready-made dishes, on the weight (volume), date and place of manufacture, packing (parceling) of foodstuffs, as well as data on counter indications to their consumption in the case of certain diseases. The list of commodities (tasks and services) information on which should contain counter indications to their application in certain diseases, shall be endorsed by the Government of the Russian Federation;
the price thereof in rubles and the conditions of purchasing commodities (tasks and services);
the guarantee period, if it has been set;
the rules and conditions of effective and safe use of goods (tasks, services);
the service or working life of goods (tasks), fixed in accordance with this Law, and also information about the consumer's requisite actions upon the expiry of said periods of time and possible consequences in case of default of such actions, if goods (tasks) present danger for the life, health and property of the consumer upon the expiry of said periods of time or become unsuitable for the use according to their designation;
the address (location), firm's name (location) of the manufacturer (executor, seller, authorized organization or authorized individual businessman, importer);

information on compulsory confirmation of the goods' (tasks', services') compliance specified under Item 4 Article 7 of the present Law;

information about the rules of sale of goods (performance of tasks and rendering of services).

reference to a specific person who is going to perform the work (provide the service) and information about the person if it is of significance given the nature of the work (service);

reference to the use of sound recordings in the provision of entertainment services by music performers;

If goods bought by the consumer have already been in use or a defect (defects) has been removed, the consumer shall be supplied with information about this.

3. Information, provided for by Item 2 of this Articles, shall be brought to the notice of consumers in technical documents appended to goods (tasks, services), in labels, marking or in any other way, accepted for individual goods (tasks, services). Information on the compulsory confirmation of goods' (tasks', services') conformity shall be presented in the procedure and ways that are established by the laws of the Russian Federation on technological regulation and shall include data on the number of the document proving such conformity, on the validity term thereof and on the organization that issued it.

End unofficial translation