

4 May 2023

Original: English

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## **Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade**

## NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

1. Notifying Member: UNITED KINGDOM

If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):

2. Agency responsible: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT)

Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:

UK TBT Enquiry Point
Trade Policy Group
Department for International Trade
Old Admiralty Building
London
SW1A 2DY
TBTEnquiriesUK@trade.gov.uk

- Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [], 5.7.1 [], 3.2 [], 7.2 [], other:
- 4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): This notification covers consumer connectable products defined as a 'internet-connectable' product or a 'network-connectable' product. This relates to the HS Code List of Chapter 84 and 85.

In scope products include but are not limited to:

- smartphones
- connectable cameras, TVs and speakers
- connectable children's toys and baby monitors
- connectable safety-relevant products such as smoke detectors and door locks
- Internet of Things base stations and hubs to which multiple devices connect
- wearable connectable fitness trackers
- outdoor leisure products, such as handheld connectable GPS devices that are not wearables
- connectable home automation and alarm systems
- connectable appliances, such as washing machines and fridges
- smart home assistants

Laptops, PCs, medical devices, tablets without a cellular connection, smart charge points and smart metering products are out of scope.

- 5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Draft of the Product Security and Telecommunications Infrastructure (Security Requirements for Relevant Connectable Products) Regulations 2023; (10 page(s), in English)
- 6. Description of content: The draft of the Product Security and Telecommunications Infrastructure (Security Requirements for Relevant Connectable Products) Regulations 2023 supplement Part 1 of the Product Security and Telecommunications Infrastructure Act 2022 as notified to the TBT Committee under symbol G/TBT/N/GBR/44. The draft Regulations set out the UK government's intended minimum security requirements for manufacturers of consumer connectable products made available to UK consumers. They also include a list of products intended to be excepted from the regulatory regime. The draft Regulations also set out additional administrative provisions relating to statements of compliance, which are required to be provided alongside products.

## 7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:

The objective of this measure is to protect consumers and businesses in the UK and the wider infrastructure.

Consumer connectable products (also known as consumer Internet of Things (IoT)) are becoming commonplace in millions of homes around the world and uptake of these products increased further as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Many of these products on the market today still have basic flaws, such as universal default passwords, which leave them vulnerable to cyberattacks such as DDoS (Distributed Denial of Service) attacks. Cyber criminals are increasingly targeting these products.

The UK government's Product Security and Telecommunications Infrastructure Act 2022, taken alongside the draft of the Product Security and Telecommunications Infrastructure (Security Requirements for Relevant Connectable Products) Regulations, represent widely recognised good practice, and regulation was strongly supported in a 2019 consultation on regulatory options.

Since 2018, the UK government has worked in partnership with international organisations including ETSI (European Telecommunications Standards Institute), to develop Technical Specification 103 645 in February 2019, and European Standard (EN) 303 645 v2.1.1 in June 2020. These outputs are the product of intense feedback from representatives from up to 65 countries. The Product Security and Telecommunications Infrastructure (Security Requirements for Relevant Connectable Products) Regulations will mandate requirements based on paragraphs 5.1-1, 5.1-2, 5.2-1 and 5.3-13 of European Standard (EN) 303 645 v2.1.1.

Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection

## 8. Relevant documents:

The latest version of the draft of the Product Security and Telecommunications Infrastructure (Security Requirements for Relevant Connectable Products) Regulations 2023 is attached as a PDF document.

- Product Security and Telecommunications Infrastructure Act 2023 can be found here: <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2022/46/contents">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2022/46/contents</a>
- 2. The Impact Assessment from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport for the Product Security and Telecommunications Infrastructure (Product Security) regime can be found here (also attached): <a href="https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0003/amend/PSTI">https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0003/amend/PSTI</a> IA reintro 0510.pdf
- 3. Proposals for regulating consumer smart product cyber security call for views 2020: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/proposals-for-regulating-consumer-smart-product-cyber-security-call-for-views/proposals-for-regulating-consumer-smart-product-cyber-security-call-for-views">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/proposals-for-regulating-consumer-smart-product-cyber-security-call-for-views</a>

- 4. The government response to that call for views can be found here: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulating-consumer-smart-product-cyber-security-government-response">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulating-consumer-smart-product-cyber-security-government-response</a>
- Proposed date of adoption: Anticipated in 2023
   Proposed date of entry into force: 29 April 2024
- 10. Final date for comments: 60 days from notification
- 11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [ ] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:

UK TBT Enquiry Point
Trade Policy Group
Department for International Trade
Old Admiralty Building
London
SW1A 2DY
TBTEnquiriesUK@trade.gov.uk

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