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Japan Food Sanitation Law to Limit Polyethylene Naphthalate

The World Trade Organization (WTO) has circulated a notification announcing Japan's proposal to regulate food contact PEN materials falling under the Japan Food Sanitation Law (JFSL).



Proposal Impacts Food Contact Regulations

The World Trade Organization (WTO) has circulated a notification announcing Japan's proposal to regulate food contact polyethylene naphthalate (PEN) materials falling under the Japan Food Sanitation Law (JFSL). The date of adoption is anticipated to be Q2 of 2016.

Standards Apply to Food Packaging, Utensils and Containers

On February 4, 2016, the WTO circulated notification document number 16-0760 [1] announcing Japan's proposal to amend Specifications and Standards for Foods, Food Additives, etc. under the Japan Food Sanitation Act, a piece of legislation commonly known as the Japan Food Sanitation Law (JFSL). This proposal would establish a new section for food contact utensils, containers, and packaging made of polyethylene naphthalate (PEN) or food contact materials manufactured from PEN as the principal ingredient. This new section includes the following requirements:

- Evaporation residues: less than or equal to 30 microgram/ milliliter
- Specific migration of germanium: less than or equal to 0.1 microgram/milliliter

According to the notification, the proposal would be adopted soon after the comment

period ends in early April 2016.

Reference:

[1] World Trade Organization, [Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures - Notification - Japan - Food utensils, containers and packaging](#), February 2016.

About SGS Services for the Consumer Goods and Retail Industry

SGS technical experts have extensive knowledge and testing experience in materials and articles in contact with food. They work to ensure that products meet the appropriate regulations by conducting [food contact tests](#) and pave the way for compliance. From overall migration tests to expert advice on emerging regulations and compliance issues and documentation review, SGS is the partner to trust.

For further information, please contact an SGS expert.

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