

Date: December, 2008

**Subject: Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) - General Certification of Conformity (GCC)**

Dear Vendor Partner:

This is an important update for ALL import and domestic products for Alco. The Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA), which was enacted on August 14, 2008, imposes new requirements on a wide variety of products that are regulated by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). This current update focuses on the CPSIA's General Certification of Conformity (GCC) requirement.

**Regulation Summary:**

- Section 14(a)(1) of the Consumer Product Safety Act, as recently amended by the CPSIA, requires a General Certification of Conformity to be issued with respect to every product that is subject to any consumer product safety rule, ban, standard, or regulation enforced by the CPSC.
- The GCC is required for all import and domestic products subject to all applicable rules, bans, standards and regulations. Products without the required certificate cannot be imported or distributed in commerce in the United States.
- The GCC requirement is immediately applicable to products manufactured on or after November 12, 2008.
- Alco expects ALL import & domestic vendors to meet the GCC requirement per the CPSC. The law applies to ALL products and for ALL brands.
- Refer to website for CPSIA GCC requirements information ([www.cpsc.gov/about/cpsia/cpsia.html](http://www.cpsc.gov/about/cpsia/cpsia.html)).
- Refer to website for CPSC Regulated Products list ([www.cpsc.gov/businfo/reg.html](http://www.cpsc.gov/businfo/reg.html)).

**Procedure:**

Alco has always held the expectation that Alco vendors have an established, effective and compliant quality assurance and testing program that insures your products meet all U.S. safety & regulatory requirements.

**Immediate Vendor Actions Required:**

- Vendors to execute a GCC based on a reasonable testing program.
- Vendor to provide the GCC along with other required import shipping documents.
  - ***If Alco is the Importer of Record;*** the vendor is held responsible to provide the GCC in their shipping documents to Alco's consolidator.
  - ***If Alco is NOT the Importer of Record;*** the vendor is held responsible to provide the GCC in their shipping documents for import.
- The vendor must maintain records of the GCCs issued for 5 years. GCC must be available upon request to Alco within 24 hours of request.

**Future Updates and Contact Information:**

- We recommend that vendors check the CPSC website frequently during this CPSIA implementation period.

Please contact \_\_\_\_\_ if you have questions or concerns per the following contacts.

Buyer

Thank You, Jane Gilmartin, Chief Operating Officer ,