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Cross-border trade of second-hand goods

Échanges transfrontaliers de marchandises d'occasion

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ISO copyright office
Ch. de Blandonnet 8 • CP 401
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11
Fax +41 22 749 09 47
copyright@iso.org
www.iso.org

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Project Committee ISO/PC 245, *Cross-border trade of second-hand goods*.

This first edition of ISO 20245 cancels and replaces ISO/TS 20245:2014.

The main changes compared to ISO/TS 20245:2014 are as follows:

— revision of structure and numbering of clauses;

— addition of definitions for “primary feature” (3.5) and “secondary feature” (3.6), and removal of definition for “value”;

— modification of definitions for “consignee” (3.4), “second-hand goods” (3.7) and “supplier” (3.8);

— revision of Figure 1;

— addition in Annex A of sample checklists for exporters and importers of second-hand goods;

— updating of reference documents.

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Introduction

The cross-border movement of second-hand goods has been in practice for many years and trade activity has increased exponentially. Most second-hand goods are sold or donated by developed countries to developing ones and the value of this market is estimated at billions of dollars. Consumers welcome having the choice of purchasing low-cost, durable and safe second-hand goods as an alternative to higher-priced new goods, and the demand for these products is robust. In addition, the re-use of consumer goods is viewed as a factor in good environmental stewardship because it is more resource efficient than manufacturing new items and it diverts goods that might otherwise go to landfills and other disposal facilities.

It is generally understood that the expectations of consumers of second-hand goods will be somewhat lower than if they were purchasing new goods, and that they have the normal consumer obligations to physically examine the product and enquire about safety and environmental issues. Nonetheless, dangerous or environmentally damaging second-hand goods can find their way into the market, leading to serious health and safety risks and waste management problems for the importing country.

In many countries, there are national requirements and guidelines designed to protect the environment and consumer health and safety. However, surveys have highlighted concerns about second-hand goods and health, safety, environmental performance, servicing and repair, and the apparent lack of universally applicable guidelines.

This document has been developed to answer these concerns. It provides a basis for in-transit and port-of-entry screening of second-hand goods and it establishes measurable criteria against which second-hand goods can be evaluated, with the objective of protecting consumers and the environment. This document can be used by the importing or exporting parties as a means to establish confidence in the goods that are being traded or donated.

This document relates to health, safety and environment. It is intended to be used in conjunction with other standards that might impact the trade of consumer products, notably ISO 10377, ISO 10393 and ISO 12931.

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Cross-border trade of second-hand goods

1 Scope

This document establishes minimum screening criteria for second-hand goods that are traded, sold, offered for sale, donated or exchanged between countries.

This document is intended to help protect health, safety and the environment in which second-hand goods interact, when used by consumers.

This document is applicable to second-hand goods that are shipped across at least one international border, and where the intended end user is a consumer.

This document does not apply to goods that are remanufactured, rebuilt or refurbished.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at http://www.electropedia.org/

3.1
consumer
individual member of the general public purchasing or using property, products or services for private purposes

[SOURCE: ISO 26000:2010, 2.2]

3.2
consumer product
product designed and manufactured primarily for, but not limited to, personal use, including its components, parts, accessories, instructions and packaging

[SOURCE: ISO 10377:2013, 2.2, modified — The word “produced” has been replaced by “manufactured”]

3.3
export and import
movement of goods from one party to another party, in their respective connotations

Note 1 to entry: Adapted from the Rotterdam Convention[29].

3.4
consignee
receiver
party to which goods are consigned

[SOURCE: ISO 17687:2007, 3.8]

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3.5
primary feature
function required for the correct operation of a product based on the foreseen design

EXAMPLE A primary feature is that the starter of a car works correctly.

3.6
secondary feature
additional function in a product that is not required for correct operation of the product

EXAMPLE A secondary feature is that the GPS in a car works correctly.

3.7
second-hand goods
goods or components/parts that have been in service (leased, loaned or owned) and that are re-entering a market for sale, lease or use by a second user or an end user

Note 1 to entry: For the purposes of this document, products that are rebuilt, refurbished or remanufactured within context of the WTO concept paper[27] are not considered to be second-hand goods.

3.8
supplier
entity that provides products or services to satisfy the consignee's requirements

Note 1 to entry: A user may also act in the capacity of a supplier.

EXAMPLE Manufacturer; seller; donor.

[SOURCE: ISO 11161:2007, 3.24, modified — The original definition has been adapted to the context of second-hand goods]

4 Basic principles

4.1 Second-hand goods should pose no health, safety or environmental risks beyond those risks generally permitted for new goods.

4.2 The quality, durability and usability of consumer second-hand goods should meet the expectations of a reasonable consumer who has full knowledge that the goods are in second-hand condition.

4.3 Second-hand goods should be in such a condition that they do not create an immediate waste management problem, or they should be disposed of after only minimal use.

4.4 Figure 1 illustrates the typical cross-border trade and movement of second-hand goods from the original owner to the supplier, who then transfers the goods to the consignee marketplace in another country.

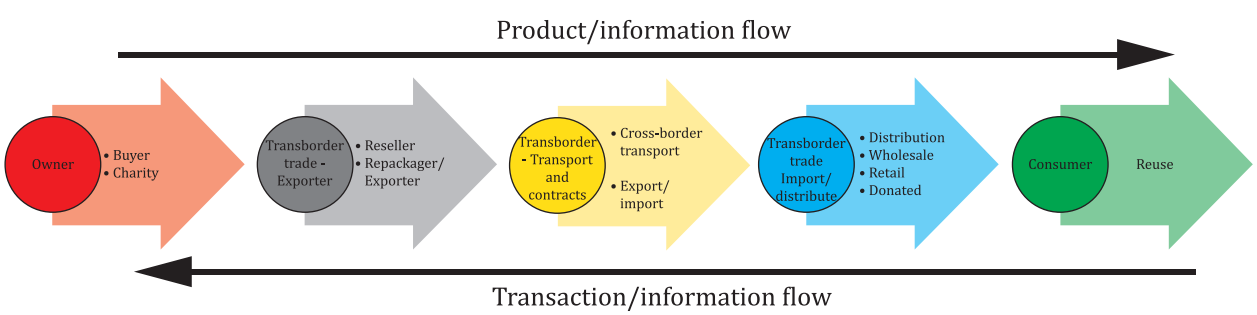

Figure 1 — Simplified diagram of typical cross-border trade in second-hand goods

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