



Activity Title and Number: EU-China-USA Trilateral
Consumer Product Safety Roundtable A074C2

Beneficiary: General Administration of Quality Supervision,
Inspection and Quarantine of China (AQSIQ)

Location and Date: Beijing, 17 Nov 2011

Stakeholders: Regulators, Enforcers, Private sector, Industry
associations, Laboratories

Brief Activity Report

Relevance and Impact

For the EU and the US – two major consumer product markets – and China – the world’s largest consumer product producer, consumer product safety is a valuable area where **increased dialogues could ensure safer consumer products, a more efficient trade process and greater market accessibility** for involved parties. The objective of the one day Consumer Product Safety Roundtable was to **find effective ways to raise awareness of European and US product safety requirements in China** to ensure that stakeholders – especially designers, manufacturers and compliance assessors – are aware of the relevant requirements when designing, producing, exporting and controlling products going to the European or US markets.

Discussions at the roundtable aimed to put forward recommendations for how EU and US consumer product safety requirements could be widely and clearly disseminated to ensure that products put on the European and US markets are safe. Key related entities such as [AQSIQ](#), the [Directorate General for Health and Consumers of the European Commission](#) and the [Consumer Product Safety Commission of the US government \(CPSC\)](#), attended the event to actively support and engage in these discussions.

Activity Description

60 participants from government, industry, academia, research institutes and testing labs attended the roundtable, providing a mix of attendees who represented both information providers and receivers. In addition, relevant case studies focusing on three sectors – children’s drawstring apparel, lighters, and toys – helped instruct the activity. Another significant aspect of the event, which aided in its success, was the bringing-in of an independent moderator who designed, structured and guided the discussions, and also introduced the mind-mapping exercise.



Participants were divided into four working groups based on four key challenges: 1) WHAT are the barriers to the communication of regulatory requirements in China? 2) WHO should product safety information target in China? 3) HOW best can product safety information be distributed in China? 4) WHAT communication tools should be used? Time was given for brainstorming responses to each given question, which provided an informed platform for each working group to then present the findings of their discussions with each other.

Results

Participants enjoyed the brainstorming exercises and a number of recommendations were put forward, such as: 1) **follow-up roundtable on concrete action plans** based on the discussions of this roundtable, 2) **greater involvement of other stakeholders**, such as private sectors and consumer associations, and 3) the **development of a dissemination check list**. In addition, the moderator has drafted a summary and recommendation report which will be distributed once agreed and approved.