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TRADING STANDARDS SERVICE

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

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Selling safe second-hand electrical goods

Introduction

If you are in the business of selling any second hand electrical goods you should be aware that:

- all goods you have for sale must meet legal safety requirements
- anyone injured by unsafe goods you have sold may be able to claim compensation from you through the courts
- if you are unsure if goods are safe then we strongly advise you to stop selling them and have them checked by an expert.

Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations 1994

The equipment you sell must be safe. If it complies with an acceptable standard, e.g. a British / European Standard, it will normally meet safety requirements.

These safety requirements cover:

- labelling, construction, design and manufacture
- insulation and earthing
- protection from electric shock
- adequate guards for radiant heaters
- preventing the generation of excessive heat, radiation, or toxic gases
- the need to provide instructions for safe use.

Wiring Colour Codes

The wires of a new three-core mains lead must be coloured as follows:

Earth - *green and yellow*

Neutral - *blue*

Live - *brown*

However, you may find an older electrical item with three-core mains lead coloured red, black and green; the Regulations make no provision for this colour coding, therefore, legally, the item should not be offered for sale. As an electrical item with a red, black and green coloured lead may be 30 or more years old, there is a danger that the insulation may have perished through time, and therefore present a risk of electrocution.

If you change a lead have it checked by an electrician. Incorrect wiring may cause electrocution.

Plugs and Sockets etc. (Safety) Regulations 1994

Distributors and retailers including second hand dealers and auctions must only sell appliances which are correctly fitted with an approved plug with sleeved pins and the correct fuse.

All plugs must carry the name and reference number of the approval body, normally BSI or ASTA. The plug does not have to be moulded on but it must be fused.

Some appliances may be supplied without a standard plug, for instance because the appliance is intended to be permanently connected to the supply.

Any rewirable standard plug sold loose must be accompanied with a notice explaining the colour coding of the cables.

As British Standards are periodically revised and improved, we recommend that before sale you fit appliances with new plugs which meet the latest specifications, and dispose of the old ones.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) (Safety) Regulations 1991

Electric fires for use in the home must have a fireguard which meets British Standards, or the European equivalent. The distance between the bars and the strength of the guard are laid down in these Standards.

The fireguard is satisfactory if any vertical bars are 5 mm or less apart, otherwise the guard must satisfy one of the following:

- if the horizontal bars are 12 mm or less apart the vertical bars must not be more than 125 mm apart; or
- if the horizontal bars are 20 mm or less apart then the vertical bars must not be more than 50 mm apart.

Electric Blankets

We advise you not to sell second-hand electric blankets, as their history, usage and condition may be unknown.

If you require further information do not hesitate to contact the Trading Standards Service

This is not an authoritative document on the law and is only intended for guidance.

For a copy of this document on audio cassette, in large print or Braille, or if you require assistance in reading this, please contact the Council's Policy Unit.

Shetland Islands Council Policy Unit
Town Hall, Hillhead, Lerwick, Shetland ZE1 0HB

Tel: 01595 744537

Email: policy@shetland.gov.uk

This document is also available at www.shetland.gov.uk/tradingstandards

Do you require the services of an interpreter?

If you do, please contact **01595 744537** for assistance.

We will provide an interpreter, or we can supply the document in your choice of language.

你是否需要傳譯服務?

如果需要，請致電 01595 744537 尋求幫助。

我們會適當地為你安排傳譯人員或者提供你需要文字的文件。

ਕੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਇੰਟਰਪਰੈਟਰ (ਤੁਰਾਸ਼ੀਆ) ਦੀਆਂ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ?

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਲਈ 01595 744537 ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

ਜਿਥੇ ਸੰਭਵ ਹੈ ਸਕਿਆ ਇੰਟਰਪਰੈਟਰ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਕਰਵਾਇਆ ਜਾਏਗਾ ਜਾਂ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਪਸੰਦ ਵਾਲੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਭੇਜਿਆ ਜਾਏਗਾ।

আপনি কি একজন দোভাষীর সাহায্য চান ?

যদি আপনার প্রয়োজন থাকে তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে যোগাযোগ করুন -01595 744537 যেখানে সম্ভব সেখানে একজন দোভাষীর ব্যবস্থা করা হবে অথবা আপনি যে ভাষাতে চা দলীলটি অনুবাদ করে আপনাকে প্রদান করা হবে ।

کیا آپ کو انٹرنیٹ پر بیٹری کی ضرورت ہے؟

اگر ایسا ہے تو پھر (انٹرنیٹ پر بیٹری) مدد حاصل کرنے کیلئے فون نمبر 01595 744537 پر بات کریں۔

جہاں ممکن ہو اوہاں انٹرنیٹ پر بیٹری کی سہولت فراہم کی جائے گی یا پھر (مطلوبہ) دستہ دیز کازر جمہ آپ کی

پسندیدہ زبان میں فراہم کیا جائے گا۔