

AGENDA

Improving product safety in an ever-changing world

The seventh product safety conference hosted by Electrical Safety First

9:00 **Registration**

9:30 **Welcome and introductions**

Chair, Anne Ferguson, Chair of the Board of Trustees, Electrical Safety First

Phil Buckle, Chief Executive, Electrical Safety First

9:45 **Keynote speech**

Margot James MP; Minister for Small Business, Consumers and Corporate Responsibility

10:00 **Legislative landscape – Brexit's impact on product safety and recalls**

As the UK moves nearer to leaving the EU our expert panel will look at the potential negative and positive implications on product safety pre & post Brexit, including the impact on standards, regulatory compliance, market surveillance and consumer safety. The panel will also give an update on the progress of the recommendations in the report produced by the BEIS Working Group on Product Recalls and Safety, including progress of a new Public Available Specification (PAS) on corrective actions.

Moderator: *Arnold Pindar, National Consumer Federation*

Panel Members: *Richard Collin; BSI Group, Brian Such; BSI Group, Charlie Pugsley; London Fire Brigade, Gordon Maddan; BEIS, Andrew Mullen; BEKO*

11:00 Tea and coffee

11:30 **Safety in a complex supply chain**

This session will consider the complexity of the product supply chain and the methods economic operators can apply to ensure products comply with the safety requirements of legislation and are able to demonstrate to the authorities how they have mitigated those safety risks, particularly where applicable standards don't exist or fully apply such as for new technological products. Our expert panel will also examine the challenges on market surveillance authorities when incidents are reported and there is no standard to use as a reference, as well as discussing good practice for importers and

retailers for demonstrating due diligence.

Moderator: *Martyn Allen; Electrical Safety First*

Panel Members: *Anthea Davies; Hogan Lovells LLP, Marcello Manca; Underwriters Laboratories, Stephen Curtler; Electrical Safety First, David Bolton; BRC, Toni Eldridge; Northamptonshire Trading Standards Service*

12:30 Lunch

13:40 **Message from our headline sponsor TUV SUD, Chris Guy**

13.50 **Safety Innovation Award**

14:00 **Product lifecycle – sustainability and safety**

This session will look at the safety considerations and issues throughout the life of a consumer electrical product. The panel of experts will discuss safety in regard to end of life and the growing issue of obsolescence, in terms of recycling and re-manufacturing. Design considerations for ensuring product longevity or maintainability, as well as consumer reaction towards replacement or repair – particularly DIY repairs – including the use of unauthorised components/repairers and how that impacts on brand liability and tracking of products for managing consumer risk will also be covered.

Moderator: *Susanne Baker, techUK*

Panel Member: *Manoj Aggarwal; Sharp Home Appliance, Norah Lewis; WRAP, Ugo Vallauri; The Restart Project, Oliver Hazlewood; Sims Recycling Solutions*

15:00 Tea and coffee

15:30 **Lithium-ion battery failures and risk mitigation**

The demand for rechargeable gadgets and home battery storage systems continues to grow, and whilst lithium-ion batteries generally have a good safety record, there have been a few high-profile incidents of fires and explosions reported in the national press. Leading experts in product safety will look at the design and operation of lithium-ion batteries and consider how and why they can fail. They will discuss how to mitigate the risks, including ensuring compliance with safety standards, the importance of battery/charger compatibility and issues around lithium batteries' safe transportation

Moderator: *Jeremy Opperer, Exponent International Ltd*

Panel Members: *Matthew Newbould; Irwin Mitchell LLP, Simon Long; Dyson,
David Palmer-Jeffrey; GI Recall*

16:30 **Summary and close**

Anne Ferguson, Chair; Phil Buckle, Electrical Safety First

16.45 **Drinks reception**