

ANNEX 1
Guidelines on second-hand electrical products

1. General

- 1.1 The Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation is applicable to both new and second-hand electrical products that are designed for household use and supplied in Hong Kong. Suppliers of second hand electrical products shall ensure that the products they supplied are in compliance with the applicable safety requirements of the Regulation.
- 1.2 Second-hand electrical products include those products that have previously been used by an end user/consumer.
- 1.3 Electrical products that are supplied as scrap or supplied for reconditioning are not subject to the control of the Regulation. However, the resale of such electrical products after re-conditioning or repair is subject to the control of the Regulation.
- 1.4 For a second-hand electrical product which has not been modified since first supplied, the original certificate of safety compliance is still valid.
- 1.5 Suppliers of second-hand electrical products are advised to seek technical advice from relevant product manufacturers, accredited laboratories or qualified person if they are not sure about the safety of the electrical products that they intend to supply. A qualified person means a person who possesses at least three years of relevant practical experience in repairing, reconditioning and testing of the concerned electrical products.
- 1.6 Suppliers of second-hand electrical products must ensure that these products are safe before supplying them to consumers. Suppliers should arrange necessary testing to certify the safety of the products and to prevent any danger that may arise from the use of the products.

2. Testing

- 2.1 The suppliers should employ qualified persons or registered electrical workers to carry out the testing for second-hand electrical products. Special care should be taken to avoid damaging the products as some of the components may have deteriorated after prolonged usage.
- 2.2 Some basic tests for second-hand electrical products should include, but not limit to, the following :

In service tests

In service tests are carried out to determine whether a second-hand electrical product is in a satisfactory condition. In service tests should include the following:

- preliminary inspection to identify any abnormalities of the product such as cracked parts, loose connection, damaged components, sign of overheating, burnt marks, water marks, etc;
- inspection check to ensure that the household electrical appliance is fitted with an appropriate plug that complies with the requirements of the Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation (e.g. 3-pin plug conforming to BS 546 or BS 1363 Part 1);
- inspection check on the compatibility of the product, its associated flexible cord and plug, and the rating of its associated fuse;
- inspection check to ensure that the household electrical appliance is either a Class I (earthed) or a Class II (double insulated or reinforced insulated) product;
- earth continuity tests for a Class I product (product with metal casing);
- insulation testing;
- functional test of the product to ensure that it operates normally, and with no sign of potential danger that may arise from excessive temperature, unguarded moving parts, abnormal noise or operation, sharp edges, loosened parts, exposed live parts, etc.

Repair/reconditioning

- The qualified person who repairs or reconditions a second-hand electrical product should carry out necessary tests including in service tests to ascertain the safety level of the product. The qualified person should be knowledgeable about the product and the guidance for testing after repair may be obtained from the manufacturers, accredited laboratories or other relevant qualified personnel.
- The qualified person shall ensure that the replaced component parts are compatible with the original component parts and suitable for the electrical product concerned.

- Excessive dust or dirt accumulated in the product should be removed and cleaned.

The qualified person should carry out other necessary tests where appropriate to ascertain the safety level of the second-hand products.

- 2.3 The results of the inspection, repair and reconditioning work should be properly recorded and certified by the responsible qualified person. Sample test certificate and sample inspection and testing report on second-hand electrical products are shown in Figure 12 and Figure 13.

3. Documentation

A second-hand product supplier should keep the following documents :

- a register of second-hand electrical products;
- transaction record and relevant document to prove that the products are second-hand;
- original receipts if available;
- the certificates of inspection, repairing, reconditioning and testing for the products, which should be issued by the qualified person and endorsed by the supplier; and
- the copy of the original certificates of safety compliance where practicable.