(Downloaded from the website of the US Consumer Product Safety Commission on 29 October 2008 at http://www.cpsc.gov/about/cpsia/faq/elecertfaq.pdf)

SAMPLE GENERAL CERTIFICATION OF CONFORMITY

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

- 1. Identification of the product covered by this certificate:
- 2. Citation to each CPSC product safety regulation to which this product is being certified:
- 3. Identification of the foreign or domestic manufacturer certifying compliance of the product:
- 4. Identification of the U.S. importer, if applicable, certifying compliance of the product:
- 5. Identification of the private labeler, if applicable, certifying compliance of the product (if any):
- 6. Contact information for the individual maintaining records of test results:
- 7. Date and place where this product was manufactured:
- 8. Date and place where this product was tested for compliance with the regulation(s) cited above:
- 9. Identification of any third-party laboratory on whose testing the certificate depends:

This form of certificate and instructions are staff interpretations and do not replace or supersede the statutory requirements of the new legislation. They were prepared by CPSC staff, have not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the views of, the Commission. They may be subject to change based on Commission action.

Instructions for completing the General Certification of Conformity

General Instructions. This sample shows the information that is required for an acceptable certification required by section 14(g) of the Consumer Product Safety Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2063(g).

The required information must be provided in English.

- Item 1: Describe the product covered by this certification in enough detail to match the certificate to each product it covers and no others.
- Item 2: The certificate must identify separately each applicable rule, ban, standard or regulation under the Acts administered by the Commission that is applicable to the product.
- Item 3: Provide the name, full mailing address, and telephone number of the foreign or domestic manufacturer of the product.
- Item 4: Provide the name, full mailing address, and telephone number of the U.S. importer, if applicable, of the product. This information may be omitted if the importer chooses to certify separately.
- Item 5: Provide the name, full mailing address, and telephone number of any private labeler certifying the product. This information may be omitted if the private labeler chooses to certify separately.
- Item 6: Provide the name, full mailing address, e-mail address and telephone number of the person maintaining test records in support of the certification.
- Item 7: Provide the date(s) when the product was manufactured by at least month and year. For the place of manufacture, if different from the manufacturer's address in item 3, provide at least the city and country or administrative region, of the place where the product was finally manufactured or assembled. If the same manufacturer operates more than one location in the same city, provide the street address of the factory.
- Item 8: Give the date of the tests or test report(s) on which certification is being based and the location(s) of the testing.
- Item 9: If a third-party laboratory tested the product or conducted a testing program on which the certification is based,

give the name, full mailing address and telephone number of the laboratory.

This form of certificate and instructions are staff interpretations and do not replace or supersede the statutory requirements of the new legislation. They were prepared by CPSC staff, have not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the views of, the Commission. They may be subject to change based on Commission action.

Q. Can electronic certificates be used to meet the requirements of Section 102 rather than paper?

A. The CPSC staff's opinion is that so long as the Commission has reasonable access to the certificate electronically and it contains all of the information required by section 102 of the CPSIA, electronic certificates can be used to satisfy the CPSIA.

Q. Must each shipment be "accompanied" by a certificate?

A. Yes, the law requires that each import (and domestic manufacturer) shipment be "accompanied" by the required certificate. The requirement applies to imports and products manufactured domestically. CPSC staff believes that an electronic certificate is "accompanying" a shipment if the certificate is identified by a unique identifier and can be accessed via a World Wide Web URL or other electronic means, provided the URL or other electronic means and the unique identifier are created in advance and available with the shipment.

Q. Must I supply the certificate to my distributors and retailers?

A. You are required to "furnish" the certificate to your distributors and retailers. CPSC staff believes that this requirement is satisfied if you provide your distributors and retailers a reasonable means to access the certificate.

Q. Must the certifier(s) sign the certificate?

A. No. Issuing the certificate satisfies the new law. It does not have to be signed by the issuer(s).

Q. On what does my certification have to be based?

A. The general conformity certification must be based on a test of each product or a reasonable testing program.

Q. Where must these certificates be filed?

A. A certificate does not have to be filed with the government. As noted above, the certificate must "accompany" the product shipment, and be "furnished" to distributors and retailers, and be furnished to CPSC upon request.

These FAQs are unofficial descriptions and interpretations of various features of CPSIA and do not replace or supersede the statutory requirements of the new legislation. These FAQs were prepared by CPSC staff, have not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the views of, the Commission. Some FAQs may be subject to change based on Commission action.