

While all products may not be subject to a compulsory standard, all prepackaged goods and foods sold on the island must comply with the relevant national labelling standards. In this regard the labels of all products must be approved by the St. Lucia Bureau of Standards. Approval of labels is a one time activity, however if changes have been made to the label, the approval of the SLBS will have to be sought before the product is placed on the market.

The SLBS is authorized to carry out random inspection of goods at ports of entry, warehouses, and retail outlets to ensure compliance with relevant labelling standards. Product recall shall be initiated for labelling violations detected in the marketplace.

In order to import and clear a shipment of products which falls under this programme the approval of the SLBS is required. The importer/broker will have to fill out an Import Inspection form. This should be accompanied by the following documents:

1. A complete laboratory analysis on the product (to prove that it meets the specifications of the standard.
2. A supplier's declaration of conformity, which must be filled out and stamped by the supplier.

For more information contact the Compliance Department of the St. Lucia Bureau of Standards



SLBS... Making standards and quality our way of life

ST. LUCIA BUREAU OF STANDARDS

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Compulsory Standards Compliance Programme



Compulsory Standards Compliance Programme



This programme is designed to ensure that all imported and locally produced goods for which there are compulsory standards conform

to acceptable health, safety, performance and labelling standards in order to be retailed on the local market. It includes import monitoring, inspections of locally manufactured products, assessments and registration of labels and general market surveillance for quality assurance and control. The compliance programme is critical to consumers, manufacturers, retailers, importers and distributors as it helps to prevent the entry of sub-standard products into the market and helps ensure fair competition.

Q. Why are you implementing this programme?

A. Compulsory standards are mandatory and therefore have to be enforced.

Q. How will it benefit us?

A. You will be better informed about what you are buying and it will assist you in understanding and judging the quality of the goods in relationship to its end use.

Q. Why the CSCP fee ?

A. The cost is for inspection plus consumer education through the media

Q. If a product that is brought in does not conform to the standard what will happen to it?

A. The goods/product will be denied entry onto the St. Lucian market for sale.

Q. If an importer do not bring in goods that conform to the labelling standards, what will happen to their goods?

A. In the first instance he/she will be allowed to re-label the products. If this is not possible the products will be prohibited for sale.

The Programme also includes Market Surveillance of all Retail Supermarkets and General Stores

Surveillance is done on various items including the following items below with regards to Labelling & conformity

ELECTRICAL



CHECK FOR

- Frequency 50 Hz
- Brand Name
- Country of Origin
- Manufacturer
- Voltage
- A suitable hazard warning if applicable

PREPACKAGED

CHECK FOR:

- Country of Origin
- Net Weight
- Ingredients
- Instruction for Use
- Expiry or best before dates
- Name and address of manufacturer



TIRES



CHECK:

- Dot # or similar marking
- Thread depth
- Casing
- Sidewall
- Tread wear