

Brussels 10.01.2013

The Belgian representative votes against the development of a new system for the certification of prepackages for the following reasons:

- the resources of the OIML, to which Belgium contributes, are used to introduce a quality mark of which the need is not demonstrated (importance of risk) and that will raise the production costs with direct impact on the product prices;
- this issue has been regulated within the European context where is taken into account the obligations en responsibilities of the packers as mentioned in directive 76/211/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making-up by weight or by volume of certain prepackaged products.
- the development of such a new certification system, fully supported by the OIML, will give an undeserved impression that this new system is supported by all member states although this is certainly not the case regarding the voting results;
- the presented project indeed refers to the ISO/IEC guide 65 and the draft standard ISO/IEC 17065 but this new organization would organize a 'management committee' that will decide if a candidate organization, although they became an accreditation with an appropriate scope under responsibility of the national accreditation body, will be allowed to take part in the system;
- the appearance of the new quality mark can lead to less inspections (reference testing) because the competent departments of the member states could wrongfully presume that they do not have to perform market surveillance on prepackages with a special quality mark.