

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS DIRECTOR

Fire Safe Cigarette Registration and Approval Information Fire Standard Compliant (FSC) Packaging Mark and Brand Family Registration Process

Public Act 56 of 2009, known as the Fire Safety Standard and Firefighter Protection Act, provides for the regulation of the sale and distribution of reduced ignition propensity cigarettes otherwise known as "fire safe cigarettes". These cigarettes are specifically manufactured to self-extinguish if they are left unattended. As discarded smoking materials are the second leading cause of home fire related deaths and injuries in the United States, this legislation will result in saving lives. Michigan is one of 50 states to have this type of law, which took effect on January 1, 2010.

Cigarette manufacturers are required to register their cigarette brand families and pay a fee of \$1,250.00 for each brand family in order to sell these cigarettes in Michigan. Manufacturers, distributors and retailers who knowingly continue to sell non fire safe cigarettes in Michigan will be subject to a fine of \$100 per pack and/or product seizure. Wholesalers/distributors/retailers will be allowed to sell their existing inventory if they can prove the state tax stamp was affixed to the cigarettes before January 1, 2010, in a quantity that is comparable to the quantity of cigarettes they purchased during 2009. Packaging for these cigarettes are required by law to have a special mark called the Fire Standard Compliant (FSC) mark indicating that the cigarettes meet certified laboratory low ignition standards. These marks must be submitted to the Bureau of Fire Services for approval.

The approval process for the FSC packaging mark consists of the manufacturer simply sending an email with an illustration of the FSC mark on the pack, carton and shipping case that meets the requirements of the law attached as a PDF file to: firesafecigarettes@michigan.gov.

The request will be reviewed and an approval email will be sent to the manufacturer within five business days.

The approved packaging mark, manufacturer request, approval email, laboratory certification and cigarette testing results will be stored electronically for each manufacturer by the Bureau of Fire Services.

Manufacturers that have submitted a written request for FSC packaging mark approval will not have to submit another request electronically and will receive an approval email.

The brand family and associated brand style registration process consists of

Manual payments by check or money order may also be made. Manufacturers are required send the written laboratory certification and test results for low ignition propensity or self-certification to firesafecigarettes@michigan.gov as part of the registration process.

As the on-line system does not permit the uploading documents, sending the laboratory certification and test results or self-certification to the Bureau of Fire Services first prior to using the on-line system meets the requirement of the law and allows the manufacturer to certify during the on-line registration process that this step this has been accomplished. The certification will be for three (3) years and there is no fee for adding additional styles for any certified brand family. The direct link for on-line brand family registration is www.michigan.gov/fscregistration.

The MyLicense system requires a user generated User Identification and Password and accepts only Master Card and Visa for credit card payments. The system generates an approval email within two to three business days to the customer point of contact to notify them that the brand family and associated styles have been approved for sale in the State of Michigan.

Checks or money orders must be made out to the Michigan Fire Safety and Firefighter Protection Act Enforcement Fund and mailed to:

LARA/ Bureau of Fire Services Attn: Fire Safe Cigarette Registration Payment Processing P.O. Box 30700 Lansing, Michigan 48909

If UPS or Fed-Ex is used, the street address is:

LARA/ Bureau of Fire Services Attn: Fire Safe Cigarette Registration Payment Processing 2407 N Grand River Ave Lansing, Michigan 48906

The customer is notified by the Bureau of Fire Services by email that they can register their brand family and associated styles by going to the direct link for on-line brand family registration is www.michigan.gov/fscregistration. The system generated email is then sent to the customer within two to three business days. It is important to note that sending in the manual payment does NOT mean the customer product is automatically registered for sale in the State of Michigan. The customer must use the MyLicense system in order to officially register their product and be notified the registration has been approved.

For more information, contact the Bureau of Fire Services by telephone at 517-241-8847 or by email firesafecigarettes@michigan.gov.