

## FY2002 Market Monitoring Test Results

### Sample purchase test related to the Household Goods Quality Labeling Law “Chairs, Benches and *Zaisu*”

(National Institute of Technology and Evaluation)

In FY2002, NITE conducted a sample purchase test of “Chairs, Benches and *Zaisu* (legless chairs used in a tatami room)” to confirm their compliance with the quality labeling regulations for miscellaneous manufactured goods (hereinafter referred to as “labeling regulations”) under the Household Goods Quality Labeling Law.

NITE purchased 15 sample products available in the market; 8 chairs, 3 benches and 4 *zaisu*.

Following results, all 15 samples were deemed noncompliant with the labeling regulations.

The most prominent noncompliance item related to dimensions, with deviations in measured values varying from the indicated ones to an extent exceeding the range allowed ( $\pm 10$  mm) by the labeling regulations, which was observed in 12 of the 15 samples.

This was followed by the improper labeling of material used for the structure (including inner structure which is not visible externally), which was seen in 10 samples.

The details of the identified noncompliance items are as follows:

Noncompliant item	Number of samples(*)
Dimensions	12
Material used for the structure (including non-visible internal structure)	10
Surface treatment	5
Overlay material	4
Cushion material	5
Labeler’s information	1
Labeling manner for “Handling precautions” etc.	4

(\*) Each noncompliant item is counted cumulatively when a product has multiple noncompliant items.

NITE presented the test results to noncompliant labelers and conducted hearings with them for their opinions and measures to be taken. The results of the hearings, together with the test results, were reported to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). Based on the test results, METI has given administrative guidance to the relevant labelers.