



11 October, 2013

FDA Advisory
No. **2013-040**

Subject: **RESULT OF RANDOM MONITORING OF TOILETRIES IN TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS**

In July 2013, the Field Regulatory Officers of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) conducted random monitoring of 102 tourist establishments (hotels, resorts, tourist inns) across the country. The monitoring was done to check the hotel toiletries in the said establishments, whether or not these products are notified with the FDA.

The mandate of the DOH-FDA to ensure product safety and quality for the protection of public health and welfare has impact on tourism as well on trade. The data as shown below should aid the Department of Tourism in granting accreditation to tourist establishments.

Out of the 102 hotels, the FDA inspectors found out that toiletries used in these hotels came from 58 suppliers. On the average, one manufacturer/distributor supplies toiletries to at least two hotels. There was one that supplies to 21 hotels all over the country.

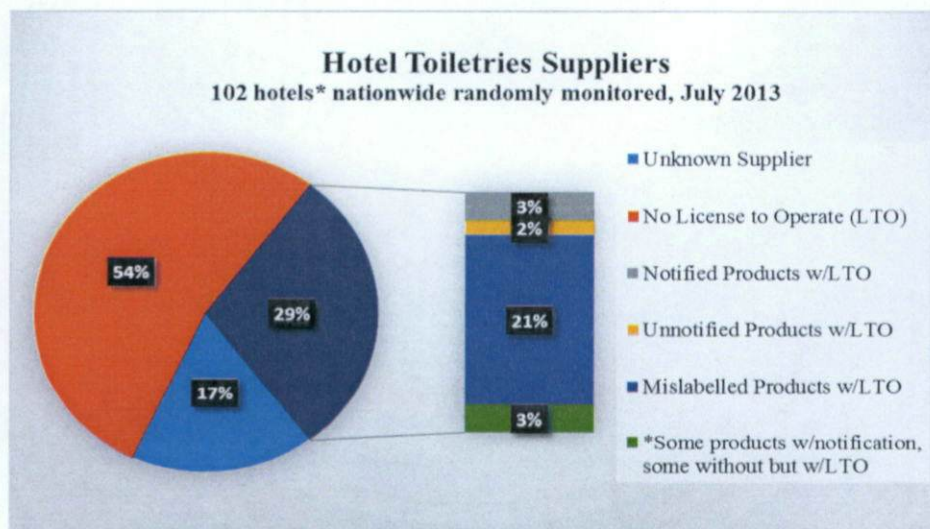


Figure 1. Summary of Hotel Toiletries Suppliers (FDA, 2013)

**Hotels monitored also include other tourist establishments (ie. resorts, tourist inns, etc)*

Figure 1 summarizes the result of the nationwide random monitoring last July. Out of the 58 suppliers, 31 or 54% do not have a valid License to Operate from the FDA but still continue to supply toiletries to hotels. However, 17 or 29% of the hotel toiletries' suppliers





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operate with a valid LTO. Ten (10) hotels (17%) were unable to identify their suppliers. The rest of the hotel toiletries suppliers (21%) provided mislabeled products to the hotels, having no printed brand names and other information in their packaging. This may also be due to hotels themselves repackaging the toiletries from their suppliers with hotel names, masking any information from its source.

These hotels may be advised to demand documentation from their suppliers so that they will be assured that the products they will acquire are notified with the FDA. Appropriate action will be done to the establishments that were found out to be operating without a valid License to Operate (LTO) and selling cosmetic products without notifying FDA. For those that are lacking few requirements, the FDA will be issuing them Report of Violation and will be providing them thirty (30) working days within which to comply with FDA Rules and Regulations.

The public is hereby advised to remain vigilant on the products that they use and see in the market as well as in hotels. These hotel toiletries are considered health products that need FDA notification, consistent with the ASEAN Cosmetic Directive (ACD) Product Notification, implemented by the Center for Cosmetic Regulation and Research (CCRR). All notified products are listed in the FDA website, www.fda.gov.ph, and consumers are encouraged to report products that are not notified by sending an email to FDA at report@fda.gov.ph. For other inquiries, you may also email info@fda.gov.ph


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