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National market surveillance strategy for 2026-2029

This summary outlines the French market surveillance strategy for the years 2026 to 2029.

This summary is a public document, unlike detailed national market surveillance strategies which are non-public.

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The French market surveillance strategy has been drawn up:

→ pursuant to Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on market surveillance and compliance of products;

→ on the basis of exchanges with the French market surveillance authorities, by the **Pôle libre circulation des produits (PLCP)** of the Directorate-General for Enterprise (DGE), which assumes the responsibilities of the Single Liaison Office (SLO) provided for in Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020.

This strategy describes the market surveillance authorities and their scope of competence, the main methodologies implemented by those authorities, the national and European cooperation actions and identifies the market surveillance priorities for the years 2026 to 2029.

I. Market surveillance authorities in France

Market surveillance is mainly carried out by **4 ministries and 2 state agencies** that monitor products in their areas of competence. Those central authorities shall carry out controls directly or through their decentralised services spread over the national territory.

The four competent ministries are:

→ **The economic and financial ministries,** which have three directorates responsible for market surveillance:

- **the Directorate-General for Competition, Consumer Affairs and Fraud Prevention (DGCCRF)** for consumer products;
- **the Directorate-General for Customs and Indirect Taxes (DGDDI)** for imported products;
- the metrology division of **the Directorate-General for Enterprise (DGE)** for measuring instruments, with the support **of the Regional Directorates for the Economy, Employment, Labour and Solidarity (DREETS).**

→ **The ministries responsible for the ecological transition, spatial planning, transport, cities, housing and the sea,** which have six directorates or departments responsible for market surveillance:

- the Directorate for Civil Aviation Safety (DSAC) of **the Directorate-General for Civil Aviation (DGAC)** for unmanned aircraft;
- **the Directorate for Maritime Affairs (DGAMPA)** for marine vessels and equipment, on the one hand, and recreational craft, personal watercraft and vessel equipment or parts, on the other;
- **the Directorate-General for Energy and Climate (DGEC)** for vehicles and internal combustion engines for non-road mobile machinery;
- **the Directorate-General for Risk Prevention (DGPR)** for gas appliances, the vast majority of pressure vessels, some chemicals, explosives for civil use, pyrotechnic articles and appliances and equipment usable in potentially explosive atmospheres, with the support **of the Regional Directorates for the Environment, Planning and Housing (DREAL);**
- the **Directorate-General for Planning, Housing and Nature (DGALN)** – Directorate for Housing, Urban Planning and Landscapes (DHUP) for lifts;

- **the Technical Service for Lifts and Guided Transport (STRMTG)** for cableway installations carrying persons.

→ **The Ministry of Labour and Solidarity, together with the General Directorate of Labour (DGT),** for professional personal protective equipment and machinery.

→ **The Ministry of Agriculture, Agri-Food and Food Sovereignty (MAASA),** together with the Bureau of Agricultural Relations and Working Conditions (BRCTA), for agricultural or forestry work equipment (machines, tractors or fence electrifiers) as well as professional personal protective equipment specifically for agriculture or forestry, with regard to occupational health and safety requirements.

Two national agencies are also responsible for market surveillance in France:

→ **the National Frequency Agency (ANFR),** for the market surveillance of radio equipment and products with digital elements with regard to horizontal cybersecurity requirements;

→ **the National Agency for the Safety of Medicines and Health Products (ANSM),** responsible for the market surveillance of part of medical devices and, until the end of 2023, cosmetic and tattoo products.

The National Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety (ANSES) is the authority responsible for cosmetovigilance and provides support, in terms of technical expertise in the field of cosmetic and tattoo products, to the DGCCRF, which has been fully responsible for market surveillance in this area since [1] January 2024.

II. Market surveillance methodologies, implementation of targeted and operational controls, follow-up of identified non-compliances

The French market surveillance authorities follow common methodologies: they carry out their checks on the basis of a direct trigger (in response to specific information) or an indirect trigger (according to a risk analysis).

The risk analysis is based on:

→ available historical data (non-compliance history per operator/sector).

→ registered alerts (consumers via Signal Conso, accident data, Safety Gate alerts).

→ Trend analysis (sector watch, customs data, technological innovations).

→ identification of critical issues, e.g.:

- E-commerce: Toys, cosmetics, radio equipment (30-50% online non-compliance).
- Sustainable products: Ecodesign, environmental claims (greenwashing).
- New risks: AI, drones (classes C0/C5), autonomous vehicles, cybersecurity (CRA Regulation).

Product conformity checks are of two kinds:

→ Documentary: Verification of EU declarations, markings (CE, warnings);

→ Physics (control of the technical characteristics of the product) by:

- Sampling (2 to 7 units per product) and laboratory testing (e.g.: Joint Laboratory Service for DGCCRF/DGDDI);

- Purchases under loan identity.

French MSAs strive to make optimal use of the cross-border information exchange tools available to them:

→ ICSMS (empowerment of inspectors to use it)

→ Safety Gate (hazardous product alerts, managed by the DGCCRF).

They shall participate assiduously in the exchange of operational information within the European Sectoral Cooperation Groups (AdCos) and, as far as possible according to their available resources, in European joint actions.

Where the various checks carried out show **that a product does not comply with the rules applicable to it and/or that it is dangerous to health or safety,** the supervisory authority which found that fact shall:

→ calls on the economic operators concerned by its placing on the market to implement corrective measures as soon as possible and verifies that these measures have been put in place;

→ may prohibit the placing on the market of the product until such measures have been applied by the economic operators concerned. For product units that are already placed on the market, their removal from points of sale and, possibly, their recall from end users (consumers and/or professionals) may be ordered;

→ may impose administrative or criminal fines (forwarding to prosecutors).

III. National and European cooperation

Pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/1020, the **Directorate-General for Enterprise (DGE)** coordinates market surveillance authorities for France. More specifically, the Free Movement of Products Unit assumes the responsibilities of **the Single Liaison Office (SLO) provided for in Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020.**

In addition to this national coordination mechanism between all market surveillance authorities, bilateral cooperation exists between the authorities. This may include close cooperation, up to and including joint controls, such as informal exchanges of best practices. The various forms of cooperation between the authorities are set out in Annex 4.

Moreover, the French market surveillance strategy is fully in line with the legal and economic environment of the European Union. The participation of the French authorities in joint actions between European market surveillance authorities, in the work of the Union Product Compliance Network (EUPCN) and the Union Consumer Safety Network (CSN), and in the activities of the Administrative Cooperation Groups (AdCo) is an important and permanent focus of the work of the central services of the French MSAs.

IV. Priorities for 2026-2029

All market surveillance authorities share the task of ensuring, irrespective of the origin of the products, compliance with the applicable regulatory provisions with a view to ensuring a high level of protection of public interests, in particular as regards the health and safety of consumers, and contributing to a level playing field between undertakings.

The values of market surveillance authorities are based on the expertise and impact of their activity on society:

- → **Expertise:** the action of the authorities is based on a thorough knowledge of the regulations and operational competences in the field of market surveillance of products.
- → **Societal impact:** the surveillance action ensures a safe and fair product market and fosters a predictable, fair and operational business environment for companies.

Based on the state of play of the surveillance of the French product market in recent years, the French strategy sets out the market surveillance priorities for 2026-2029, with the objective of having market surveillance that is effective, consistent and in line with emerging challenges, while integrating specific objectives for each product sector.

The controls carried out in recent years and the risk analyses carried out by the supervisory authorities have made it possible to identify growing sectors that may present additional potential risks, levers for optimising market surveillance actions through shared technological tools and more fluid cross-border exchanges of information.

Five common or horizontal objectives to strengthen the surveillance of the French market are established:

1. **Strengthen monitoring of e-commerce** by targeting critical control points along the marketing chain
2. **Fully integrate environmental sustainability, ecodesign and circular economy issues** into market surveillance actions
3. **Identify and mobilize levers adapted to the monitoring of new products**
4. **Optimising the effectiveness of supervision –** the right targeting of measures at the right time
5. **Strengthen coordination and cooperation between competent authorities to** ensure coherent and effective action at national level

These horizontal objectives serve as a general roadmap that can be broken down by each of the authorities within its sphere of competence according to its means of intervention. They may be complemented by more specific objectives for each supervisory authority according to its areas of competence.

Conclusion

The objective of the national market surveillance strategy is to ensure a safe, fair and sustainable product market, while adapting to the new challenges posed by the rise of e-commerce, support for the green transition, the development of new technologies such as artificial intelligence, sources of new risks (drones, connected products, etc.) but also tools to better target the products to be monitored (Proactive webcrawler, etc.).

This strategy incorporates the legal requirements defined at European level, in particular those resulting, at cross-cutting level, from the following texts:

- → Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 (market surveillance).
- → Regulation (EU) 2023/988 (General Product Safety).
- → Regulation (EU) 2024/1781 (ecodesign and sustainability).

In order to achieve the above objectives, the national strategy of the market surveillance authorities for the period 2026-2029 marks a move towards ever more proactive surveillance, incorporating:

- → Innovation (AI, data, cybersecurity);
- → Sustainability (ecodesign, combating greenwashing);
- → Enhanced cooperation (national and European).

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