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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note does not form part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations implement European Parliament and Council Directive [94/11/EC](#) (O.J. No. L100, 19.4.94, p.37) on the labelling of materials used in the main components of footwear for sale to the consumer.

The Regulations require “responsible persons” as defined in regulation 2(1) to ensure that footwear placed on the market shall comply with certain labelling requirements (regulation 4).

Labelling, which shall be conveyed upon the footwear, shall provide information as to the material which constitutes at least 80% of the surface area of the upper, at least 80% of the surface area of the lining and sock and at least 80% of the volume of the outer sole of the footwear.

The information may be provided by way of pictogram or written indication (regulation 5).

Retailers must ensure that footwear is labelled in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations and that consumers are informed of the meaning of the pictograms (regulation 6).

Criminal penalties are provided for breach of regulation 4 or 6.

The Regulations make provision for enforcement including service of compliance notices.

A compliance cost assessment is available, copies of which have been placed in the libraries of both Houses of Parliament. Copies are also available from the Consumer Affairs Division of the Department of Trade and Industry, Room 4.R.11, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.