

Question for written answer E-002925/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Tobacco Products Directive - consequences for the packaging industry

The implementation of the Tobacco Products Directive will have direct consequences for the packaging industry as specifications for tobacco packaging change.

There are a range of security solutions and technologies that enable tobacco companies to counter illicit tobacco products. The advantage that this brings is that counterfeiters cannot target just one single security feature solution to create a 'recipe' for manufacturing illicit products. In addition, this choice provides multiple options for sourcing secure authentication solutions.

Can the Commission, therefore, comment on whether recommendations for authentication technologies to be set out in Article 16 of the Directive will define the specification of a standard rather than a proscribed technology, thereby allowing competition in the market for suppliers of credible security solutions for tobacco packaging?