

New Regulations on the Sale and Advertising of Active Mobility Devices

Dear Business Operator,

1. LTA is **enhancing the regulatory framework for active mobility devices to keep pace with the growing use of online sales channels and to strengthen safeguards relating to device and battery safety**. The new rules will affect retailers, online sellers and online marketplace operators, and will cover online sales and advertising, as well as the sale, advertising and fitting of mobility device batteries. LTA intends to commence these rules in the **second quarter of 2027**, giving affected parties time to prepare for the new requirements.
2. **Regulation of online sale and advertising.** There are existing rules on sale and advertising of active mobility devices by retailers with physical shops. As online channels have become a common way of advertising and selling active mobility devices, the relevant requirements under the Active Mobility Act governing dealings in active mobility devices and batteries, where applicable, will be extended to cover online dealings. These requirements will apply to channels such as standalone websites and online marketplace platforms¹. The existing requirements that will be extended to online dealings include:
 - i. Requirement for sellers to display warning notices when selling power-assisted bicycles (PAB), e-scooters and mobility scooters. LTA will prescribe the format of the warning notices closer to the date of commencement of the new rules;
 - ii. Prohibition against advertising non-compliant active mobility devices;
 - iii. Prohibition against selling personal mobility devices (PMDs) and motorised personal mobility aids (PMAs)² for use on roads; and
 - iv. Prohibition against selling non-compliant active mobility devices for use on public paths.
3. **Tightening of advertisement restrictions.** It would be an offence to:
 - i. Make a false or misleading representation about an active mobility device's compliance, model/type, lawful use, battery compatibility or component specifications when selling or advertising the product; or
 - ii. Advertise services to modify an active mobility device which would make the device non-compliant.
4. **Restrictions on sale and advertisement of mobility device batteries.** To reduce fire risks, rules relating to active mobility device batteries will also be introduced. The rules will apply to **Lithium batteries**, which are associated with greater fire risks.

¹ Examples of online marketplaces include Carousell, Shopee, Lazada, TikTok Shop, Amazon, Facebook Marketplace, etc.

² Comprises motorised wheelchairs, and mobility scooters.

- i. Sellers of mobility device batteries must display a specification notice for each mobility device battery listed or offered for sale. The notice must state the device model or models compatible to the battery, the battery brand and model, if any, and the battery's voltage and capacity. LTA will provide further details closer to the date of commencement of the new rules.
- ii. It would also be an offence to perform any of the following:
 - a. advertise a non-compatible battery for use with an active mobility device;
 - b. sell a battery knowing that the buyer intends to fit it to an active mobility device that is not compatible with that battery; or
 - c. fit an active mobility device with a non-compatible battery.

What is a Compatible Battery?

For **PMDs and PABs**, a compatible battery is one that was fitted into and tested with that device model to meet the prescribed safety standards, or another battery of the same brand and model.

For **mobility scooters**, a compatible battery is one that was originally installed by the manufacturer or endorsed by the manufacturer as suitable for use with the device, or another battery of the same brand and model.

- 5. **Expanded coverage of display, advertisement and sale restrictions.** Existing restrictions on the display, advertisement and sale of non-compliant devices will be extended to **unregistered or unapproved devices**. Specifically, it would be an offence to:
 - i. **Display** an unapproved and unsealed PAB, an unregistered e-scooter, or an unregistered mobility scooter;
 - ii. **Sell** an unapproved and unsealed PAB, an unregistered e-scooter, or an unregistered mobility scooter; or
 - iii. **Advertise** an unapproved and unsealed PAB, an unregistered e-scooter, or an unregistered mobility scooter, unless the advertisement clearly states that the device stated in that advertisement or listing will be approved and sealed, or registered, as applicable, before it is delivered to the customer.
- 6. **Powers to issue directions to sellers and online marketplace operators.** To facilitate enforcement of regulations, LTA will have the powers to issue written directions requiring:
 - i. **Sellers** to put up or correct a warning notice/ specification notice, stop a sale, remove a sale listing, or correct a sale listing or advertisement or take reasonable measures to disable access in Singapore; and
 - ii. **Online marketplace operators** to provide LTA with information in relation to sellers on their platforms for the investigation or enforcement of active mobility offences.

Phasing out of Blue Seal PABs

7. Existing Blue Seal PABs will no longer be permitted for use from **1 January 2028**. Resellers should therefore cease offering Blue Seal PABs for sale and dispose of any remaining stock before this date. From 1 January 2028, it will be an offence to keep Blue Seal PABs since they would be deregistered.
8. For further enquiries, please contact LTA_ActiveMobility@lta.gov.sg or Feedback@lta.gov.sg.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What do online sellers and marketplace operators need to do to comply with the regulations?

Online sellers must take reasonable steps to ensure that only compliant regulated active mobility devices are offered for sale to consumers in Singapore. This includes verifying that a regulated active mobility device meets the applicable regulatory requirements before it is listed for sale and removing or preventing the listing of devices that do not comply with these requirements. Online sellers are also required to display a warning notice or specification notice for the sale of mobility devices and batteries respectively.

Online marketplace operators will be required to furnish LTA with information on sellers on their platforms when requested for enforcement purposes. This will support LTA's enforcement against sellers of non-compliant devices.

2. What will LTA do if it becomes aware of a listing for a non-compliant active mobility device?

When LTA is aware of, or when a non-compliant online listing or advertisement is identified, LTA will take enforcement action against the seller. LTA may also issue a directive to the retailer to take down or amend the offending listing/ advertisement within a specified period.

Putting up a listing of a non-compliant device could result in a fine up to \$20,000 and/or jail term up to 24 months, while failure to comply with a directive may result in a fine up to \$10,000 and/or jail term up to 12 months.

3. What if the item is sold before LTA notifies the seller?

Where we have sufficient evidence to believe that a sale of a non-compliant device has taken place, LTA will investigate into the matter.

4. What happens if a seller creates a new account and reposts a listing after it has been removed?

Where a same seller posts non-compliant listings under multiple accounts, the charge for each case will be counted towards the same seller.

5. Will online marketplaces be held responsible for listings by individual sellers? Will marketplaces be expected to proactively screen and remove non-compliant listings, or only act when directed by LTA?

LTA will take enforcement action against sellers who advertise or offer non-compliant devices for sale. Online marketplace operators will be required to provide relevant seller or advertiser information when requested to support LTA's investigations. LTA expects platform operators to work closely with us to identify and promptly remove non-compliant listings, and to consider appropriate measures to prevent repeat listings.

6. What happens if a seller ignores a written direction?

Failure to comply with a written direction is an offence. An individual may be fined up to \$10,000 or jailed for up to 12 months, or both, while a non-individual may be fined up to \$20,000. Continuing non-compliance after conviction attracts a further fine of up to \$250 a day.

7. Why is LTA phasing out blue-seal PABs?

Blue-seal PABs were approved between October 2004 and January 2016, before Singapore introduced the more stringent EN 15194 technical safety requirements for PABs. Existing blue-seal PABs were allowed to continue to be used when the newer requirements were introduced.

As these devices are now at least 10 years old, there are concerns over their fire risk, particularly as original replacement parts may no longer be readily available and older devices may have been fitted with non-original components over time.

The phase-out is therefore part of broader efforts to enhance fire safety and progressively remove older and potentially non-compliant active mobility devices from the community.

8. What are blue-seal PABs and how are they different from orange-seal PABs?

Blue-seal PABs are PABs that were inspected and approved between October 2004 and January 2016 based on the technical requirements in place at the time and affixed with a blue LTA seal. Blue-seal PABs were approved according to the requirements in place at the time. From February 2016, LTA introduced the EN 15194 standard which provides a more comprehensive safety benchmark covering areas such as mechanical strength, braking performance and electrical safety. PABs approved under the EN15194 standards are affixed with an orange LTA seal.