

What's up @

An internal information service for DTI employees



DTI intensifies consumer advocacy campaign

Every October, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) lines up activities that reinforce its commitment to protect consumers as part of the Consumer Welfare Month (CWM) celebration.

In support of the 18th CWM celebration, the DTI, together with the National Consumer Affairs Council (NCAC), organized several programs and events to strengthen the need for consumer protection in purchase transactions, advertisements, product labels, product safety, and after-sales service. The event's theme, "Consumer Protection in the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)" is timely given the strategic role of the Department in the AEC.

Last 01 October, the DTI, led by Consumer Protection Group (CPG) Undersecretary Victorio Mario A. Dimagiba, awarded Corporate Gold Bagwis seal to three corporations. These are SM Savemore, SM Hypermarket, and Hyundai, for successfully passing the DTI requirements on compliance with Fair Trade Laws and Social Responsibility and on alignment to ISO 9001 or the Quality Management System (QMS).



During the Awarding of Corporate Gold Bagwis Seal for 2015, in attendance were (from L-R) Consumers International Regional Project Officer for Asia Pacific Satya Sharma; National Consumer Affairs Council (NCAC) Chairman Jose P. Pepito; representatives of Hyundai E. Rodriguez, Hyundai Manila Bay, SM Savemore, and SM Hypermarket; DTI Undersecretary Victorio Mario A. Dimagiba; and DTI Director Anselmo B. Adriano of the Consumer Protection and Advocacy Bureau (CPAB).

The DTI also hosted the 2nd Train-the-Trainer Workshop on Strengthening Technical Competency for Consumer Protection in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region from 05-07 October 2015 at the Crowne Plaza Manila Galleria Hotel. Consumer protection agencies from the ASEAN member states participated in the event.

With the theme “**Standards, the world’s common language**,” the 41st National Standards Week (08-14 October 2015) was also celebrated in observance of the International Organisation for Standardisation – International Electrotechnical Commission – International Telecommunication Union’s (ISO-IEC-ITU) 46th World Standards Day celebration on 14 October.

Through its *Bantay Presyo* Program, the CPG conducted the *Bantay Presyo* Pa-Raffle for DTI employees where receipts of purchase of Basic Necessities and Prime Commodities (BNPC) served as entries. Ten winners were drawn weekly during the Flag Raising ceremony and received grocery packs.

A Consumer Summit was also held by CPAB last 26 October at the Crowne Plaza Manila Galleria Hotel where the “Search for Outstanding Consumer Organization in the Philippines” was introduced. Other topics covered were healthcare, product quality and safety, e-commerce, and financial service.

The Fair Trade Enforcement Bureau (FTEB) also conducted a Briefing on DTI Rules and Guidelines on Sales Promotion last 30 October. **FTEB-Sales Promotion Division Chief Rosila F. Egmilan** discussed concerns on related sales promotion laws, application processes, and technical issues.

The DTI also lined-up hot issues as topics for discussion in its *Konsyumer Atbp* (KATBP) episodes and its segment “*May Karapatan Ka*” in the *Oplan Asenso Program* for October that include safeguarding the protection of elderly and persons with disabilities (PWDs) as consumers, sending *Balikbayan* boxes home, certified helmets for kids, and safe and sufficient supply of agricultural products for all.