

World Anti-Counterfeiting Day

24th June, 2015

The Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards (TTBS) in collaboration with the T&T Police Service, the Intellectual Property Office and the Customs and Excise Division joins with its regional and international colleagues in celebration of World Anti-Counterfeiting Day.

Counterfeiting is "an imitation of a document, product or its packaging that is made with the intent to deceptively represent the item as the genuine article. Items which are mostly counterfeited are handbags, clothing, watches, fire extinguishers, electrical goods, Christmas lights and even pharmaceuticals.

Consumers should be cautious of products that do not display the brand, product name or certification mark on the box or on the product itself. A good rule of thumb is – "if the price is too good to be true, then it probably is".

Underwriters Laboratory LLC (UL) is one international organisation that provides product certification for a wide category of goods. Genuine UL Marks consist of four mandatory elements (see illustration below).

The captioned agencies are assiduously working together to stem this crime to ensure the protection of consumers health and safety.



How to identify a genuine UL product:-

1. The name and/or certification mark of Underwriters Laboratories (UL in a circle).
2. The word "LISTED" in capital letters.
3. A control number (four alphanumeric characters) or issue number (sequence of typically four to six numbers). The issue number may or may not be preceded by one or two letters and may or may not be preceded by the phrase "Issue No."
4. A product identity (i.e. what the product is).

