

To our sales partner for Optimus

Kempthal, November 8, 2022

German Market Surveillance Authority requests a STOP SALE on the Optimus VEGA

Dear sales partner,

We are very sorry to report that the Optimus VEGA (Art. No. 8018505) needs to be placed on Stop Sale in all EU countries. You may remember that the VEGA was already reviewed by the Finnish market surveillance authority earlier this year. Now the German market surveillance authority has reviewed the VEGA and is assessing the risk differently than the Finnish authority.

Positive: Germany does not require to inform end customers.

But only physical changes made to the stove will be accepted which needs time to implement. Only after they are implemented and approved by the authority, the stove can be released to the market again.

What does this mean for you?

- You will immediately need to stop selling the Optimus VEGA.
- We will take back current inventory against credit. Please contact our customer service (customerservice@katadyn.de) to schedule the pick-up.
- This applies to all inventory in hands of distributors and dealers.
- We will make the correction to the stove and ship new inventory by the end of Q1 2023 together with new images, packaging, manual and sales text.
- We will review all your orders and send out new confirmation dates to you within the next 5 working days.

What needs to be corrected?

- 1) The newly marked windshield needs to be removed. It can still be sold separately as an accessory.

page 2

- 2) We need to extend the pre-heating tube (generator tube) to meet all test requirements of EN521:2019 in liquid mode. Namely a 1-hour full power boil test in liquid gas mode. We only tested this mode at 10 °C as we could not think of a use case a customer would want to use a VEGA in liquid gas mode for an extended period. It uses too much energy in this mode, especially in warm/hot temperatures. At low temperatures it uses much less energy and is perfect for melting snow. The German authorities did not accept our argument and want the VEGA to meet the 20 °C and 1 hour test point. For this the VEGA needs a longer preheating tube which, unfortunately, takes longer to source.
- 3) All VEGAs need to be packaged in new packaging including a new manual.

Does this apply to Switzerland, Norway, UK and Finland?

Yes, the German authorities expect us to issue a voluntary stop sale notification in all countries the Gas Appliance Regulation 2016/426 is observed. This included Finland, EFTA, Switzerland, and UK.

Do I have to inform the end users?

No.

We are very sorry that we are repetitively bringing you unpleasant news about OPTIMUS brand stoves in 2022. Updating the VEGA has highest priority in our engineering and manufacturing teams. The changes to the VEGA have already been tested and we are confident to ship your orders by the end of Q1 2023.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Trix Ammann
Head of Compliance and Regulatory
Katadyn Group



Lukas Hesse
Product Manager Optimus
Katadyn Group