An Coimisiún um Rialáil Cumarsáide
Commission for Communications Regulation

Decision 26 June 2026
Decision Reference: ComReg 26/82

1. The Commission for Communications Regulation ("ComReg") has decided pursuant to Article 19(2) of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 (the Market Surveillance Regulation or "**MSR**") that the following product models:

Hoover BHTD H7A1TCE-80
Hoover BATD H7A1TCEB-80
Hoover BATD H7A1TCE-80
Candy BKTDH 7A1TCEB-80/
Hoover BHTD H7A1TCEB-80
Hoover HTDB WH7A1TCE-80/
Hoover HBTD WH7A1TCE-80/
Candy CTDB H7A1TBE-80/
Candy CBTD H7A1TE-80/
Hoover BATD H7A1TCER-80
Haier HDBI H7A2TBEX-80
Candy BCTD H7A1TBE-80

(the "**Radio Equipment**") present a serious risk. The reasons for this decision are set out below.

Background

2. Haier provided a Product Safety Notification dated 30 June 2025 (the "**Notification**") to ComReg. The Notification, amongst other things:

a. refers to manufacturing variations including variability in the position of the copper compressor gas pipe and sponge separator; and
b. sets out that the Radio Equipment present a risk of fire as it is possible for an internal short circuit to occur within the tumble dryer during normal use. This can cause the tumble dryer to ignite, causing a fire.

3. By email dated 13 August 2025, Haier provided two risk assessments, namely 'Risk Assessment Manufacturing Period 1' and 'Risk Assessment Manufacturing Period 2' both with document revision dates of 22 November 2024 and 23 July 2025. The said risk assessments generated a finding in relation to severity of harm and level of risk as low and medium in relation to a fire hazard associated with the Radio Equipment.

4. ComReg is aware that Haier had to halt its initial repair programme due to concerns the machines as modified could still be unsafe. Haier has advised that 5 machines in Ireland had received an initial repair and that 4 of those machines have now had an updated modification completed. Therefore, ComReg understands from Haier's most recent updates, there is one affected machine in Ireland (including from Haier sales, UK retailer sales, or OEM Sales) that had previously been modified, awaiting or due an updated modification. ComReg is continuing to engage with Haier in relation to that machine. However, of the 1,141 affected machines advised by Haier made available in Ireland (via Haier sales or UK retailers' sales), ComReg understands from Haier's update of 13 May 2026, that 702 machines require a service intervention as they still present a fire risk.

5. ComReg's email of 1 September 2025 to Haier highlighted that Haier's risk assessments compromised probability in respect of '*failure steps*' and that the assessments neither aligned with the EU Risk Assessment Guidelines, nor with the UK PRISM framework. Haier's email dated 9 September indicated that its risk assessments were "*in line with both EU Risk Assessment Guidelines and UK PRISM Framework*".

6. On 5 February 2026, Haier informed ComReg that two further fire incidents had occurred in Ireland in relation to the Radio Equipment, one on 6 August 2024 and one on 31 January 2025. The delay in notifying these incidents to ComReg is unacceptable.

7. ComReg understands that there have been more than 60 fire incidents in the UK.

Legal basis

8. Each of the pieces of Radio Equipment contains a radio interface. Accordingly, it is radio equipment as defined in Directive 2014/53/EU (the "Radio Equipment Directive" or "**RED**").

9. Article 2 of the MSR provides that the MSR applies products that are subject to the Union harmonisation legislation listed in Annex I ('Union harmonisation legislation') to the MSR, in so far as there are no specific provisions with the same objective in the Union harmonisation legislation, which regulate in a more specific manner particular aspects of market surveillance and enforcement. RED is listed in Annex I to the MSR. Accordingly, radio equipment is subject to the MSR.

10. ComReg is the body designated as both the competent authority and market surveillance authority (MSA) in Ireland for the purposes of monitoring and enforcing compliance by economic operators with their obligations under the European Union (Radio Equipment) Regulations 2026 (S.I. No. 14 of 2026) (the "**Regulations**"), which transpose RED into Irish Law.

11. Accordingly, ComReg has certain powers and duties in relation to the Radio Equipment both under the Regulations, RED and the MSR.

12. From the information provided by Haier to ComReg, it is appears that some percentage of the Radio Equipment suffers from an assembly error, such that with the passage of time the insulation on a cable harness may be worn through, which may result in a short to earth, which may in turn blow a hole in a refrigerant pipe containing propane, which may in turn be ignited resulting in a fire (the **"Fire Risk**")

13. Article 3(1) of RED provides, insofar as relevant:

> *"1. Radio equipment shall be constructed so as to ensure:*
> *(a) the protection of health and safety of persons and of domestic animals and the protection of property, including the objectives with respect to safety requirements set out in Directive 2014/35/EU, but with no voltage limit applying;"*

14. It is clear that some percentage of the Radio Equipment therefore poses risks to the health and safety of persons and domestic animals and to property.

15. It therefore falls to ComReg to assess the level of this risk.

Risk Assessment

16. Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2024/3173 (the "**Safety Gate Regulation**") provides that level of the risk posed by a product shall be assessed in accordance with the criteria set out in Annex II.

17. The table in point 3.3 of that Annex sets out how the severity levels of potential harms is to be assessed. Level 4 health and safety harms are:

"Life-threatening: harm or consequence that is or could be fatal, including brain death; consequences that affect reproduction or offspring; severe loss of limbs and/or function, leading to more than approximately 10 % of disability."

18. Haier's own risk assessments,[1] identify certain life threat hazards arising from the Radio Equipment.

19. While normally a full risk assessment is required, point 4 of Annex II to the Safety Gate Regulation sets out cases in which the risks posed by a product shall be presumed to be a serious risk including, in particular where:

"(a) The product is linked to probable harm levels corresponding to severity levels 3 or 4 referred to in point 3.3 and consumers and end users cannot be reasonably expected to take the necessary precautionary measures to protect themselves or to prevent the materialisation of the risk or they are not informed adequately by the relevant economic operator on how to avoid the risk from materialising. The conditions of the materialisation of the risk need to be inherently linked to the hazard of the product.

20. ComReg is of the view that:

    a. the Radio Equipment is linked to probable harm of level 4;
    b. consumers have not been informed adequately on how to avoid the risk from materialising – if they had been so informed there would be a much larger take-up of the free service to rectify the fault; and
    c. the conditions for the materialisation of the risk are inherently linked to the hazard of the product.

21. Accordingly, without prejudice to its entitlement to carry out a full risk assessment, ComReg intends to rely on this presumption.

Please note a risk level of serious, aligns with the assessment of the OPSS in respect of Northern Ireland.

22. Three additional models were identified in Haier's Heat Pump Tumble Dryer Safety Campaign Review, dated 16 October 2025, noted as "*UK Retailer to Ireland*" and were also included in the said UK serious risk notification on Safety Gate:

Hoover BATD H7A1TCER-80
Haier HDBI H7A2TBEX-80
Candy BCTD H7A1TBE-80

[1] ComReg has reservations in relation to these assessments.