Proposed Rules

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

16 CFR Part 312

RIN 3084–AB20

Children’s Online Privacy Protection Rule Safe Harbor Proposed Self-Regulatory Guidelines; kidSAFE Seal Program Application for Safe Harbor

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission (FTC or Commission).

ACTION: Request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Federal Trade Commission requests public comment concerning the proposed self-regulatory guidelines submitted by the kidSAFE Seal Program (“kidSAFE”), owned and operated by Samet Privacy, LLC, under the safe harbor provision of the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Rule.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before October 18, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may file a comment online or on paper, by following the instructions in the Request for Comment part of the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below. Write “kidSAFE Application for Safe Harbor, Project No. P–135418” on your comment, and file your comment online at https://ftcpublic.commentnetworks.com/ftc/coppakidsafapp, by following the instructions on the web-based form. If you prefer to file your comment on paper, mail or deliver your comment to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, Room H–113 (Annex E), 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20580.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Section A. Background

On October 20, 1999, the Commission issued its final Rule pursuant to the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act, 15 U.S.C. 6501 et seq, which became effective on April 21, 2000.1 On December 19, 2012, the Commission amended the Rule, and these amendments became effective on July 1, 2013.2 The Rule requires certain Web site operators to post privacy policies and provide notice, and to obtain verifiable parental consent, prior to collecting, using, or disclosing personal information from children under the age of 13.3 The Rule contains a “safe harbor” provision enabling industry groups or others to submit to the Commission for approval self-regulatory guidelines that would implement the Rule’s protections.4 Pursuant to Section 312.11 of the Rule, kidSAFE has submitted proposed self-regulatory guidelines to the Commission for approval. The full text of the proposed guidelines is available on the Commission’s Web site, at www.ftc.gov.

Section B. Questions on the Proposed Guidelines

The Commission is seeking comment on various aspects of the proposed guidelines, and is particularly interested in receiving comment on the questions that follow. These questions are designed to assist the public and should not be construed as a limitation on the issues on which public comment may be submitted. Each response should cite the number and subsection of the question being answered. For all comments submitted, please provide any relevant data, statistics, or any other evidence, upon which those comments are based.

1. Please provide comments on any or all of the provisions in the proposed guidelines. For each provision commented on please describe (a) the impact of the provision(s), including benefits and costs, if any, and (b) what alternatives, if any, kidSAFE should consider, as well as the costs and benefits of those alternatives.

2. Do the provisions of the proposed guidelines governing operators’ information practices provide “the same or greater protections for children” as those contained in Sections 312.2–312.10 of the Rule?5 Where possible, please cite the relevant sections of both the Rule and the proposed guidelines.

3. Are the mechanisms used to assess operators’ compliance with the proposed guidelines effective?6 If not, please describe (a) whether and how the assessment mechanisms could be modified to satisfy the Rule’s requirements, and (b) the costs and benefits of those modifications.

4. Are the incentives for operators’ compliance with the proposed guidelines effective?7 If not, please describe (a) whether and how the incentives could be modified to satisfy the Rule’s requirements, and (b) the costs and benefits of those modifications.

5. Do the proposed guidelines provide adequate means for resolving consumer complaints? If not, please describe (a) whether and how the dispute resolution process could be modified to resolve consumer complaints adequately, and (b) the costs and benefits of those modifications.

6. Does kidSAFE have the capability to run an effective safe harbor program? Specifically, can kidSAFE effectively conduct initial and continuing assessments of operators’ fitness for membership in its program in light of its business model and technological capabilities and mechanisms?8 If not, please describe (a) whether and how the program could be modified to ensure that kidSAFE could run it effectively, and (b) the costs and benefits of those modifications.

Section C. Invitation To Comment

You can file a comment online or on paper. For the Commission to consider your comment, we must receive it on or before October 18, 2013. Write “kidSAFE Application for Safe Harbor, Project No. P–135418” on your comment. Your comment—including your name and your state—will be posted on the public record of this proceeding, including, to the extent practicable, on the public Commission Web site, at http://www.ftc.gov/os/publiccomments.shtm. As a matter of

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1 Section 312.11 of the Rule.
2 See 16 CFR 312.11(b)(1); 78 FR at 4013.
3 Section 312.11(b)(2); 78 FR at 4013.
4 See 16 CFR 312.11(b)(3); 78 FR at 4013.
5 See 16 CFR 312.11(c)(1).
discretion, the Commission tries to remove individuals’ home contact information from comments before placing them on the Commission Web site.

Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for making sure that your comment doesn’t include any sensitive personal information, like anyone’s Social Security number, date of birth, driver’s license number or other state identification number or foreign country equivalent, passport number, financial account number, or credit or debit card number. You are also solely responsible for making sure that your comment doesn’t include any sensitive health information, like medical records or other individually identifiable health information. In addition, don’t include any “[trade secret or any commercial or financial information which is . . . privileged or confidential,” as discussed in Section 6(f) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and FTC Rule 4.10(a)(2), 16 CFR 4.10(a)(2). In particular, don’t include competitively sensitive information such as costs, sales statistics, inventories, formulas, patterns, devices, manufacturing processes, or customer names.

If you want the Commission to give your comment confidential treatment, you must file it in paper form, with a request for confidential treatment, and follow the procedure explained in FTC Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c). Your comment will be kept confidential only if the FTC General Counsel, in his or her sole discretion, grants your request in accordance with the law and the public interest.

Postal mail addressed to the Commission is subject to delay due to heightened security screening. As a result, we encourage you to submit your comments online. To make sure that the Commission considers your online comment, you must file it in paper form, with a request for confidential treatment, and follow the procedure explained in FTC Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c). Your comment will be kept confidential only if the FTC General Counsel, in his or her sole discretion, grants your request in accordance with the law and the public interest.

Food and Drug Administration

21 CFR Parts 1 and 16

Food and Drug Administration Food Safety Modernization Act: Proposed Rules on Foreign Supplier Verification Programs and the Accreditation of Third-Party Auditors/Certification Bodies; Public Meetings

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notification of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or we) is announcing two public meetings to discuss two proposed rules aimed at strengthening assurances that imported food meets the same safety standards as food produced domestically. The Foreign Supplier Verification Programs (FSVP) proposal establishes requirements for importers to verify that their foreign suppliers are implementing the modern, prevention-oriented food safety practices called for by the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) and achieving the same level of food safety as domestic growers and processors. The second proposed rule on the Accreditation of Third-Party Auditors/Certification Bodies would strengthen the quality, objectivity, and transparency of foreign food safety audits on which many U.S. food companies and importers currently rely to help manage the safety of their global food supply chains. The purpose of these public meetings is to solicit oral stakeholder and public comments on the proposed rules and to inform the public about the rulemaking process (including how to submit comments, data, and other information to the rulemaking docket), and to respond to questions about the proposed rules.

DATES: See section II, “How to Participate in the Public Meeting” in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section of this document for date and time of the public meetings, closing dates for advance registration, and information on deadlines for submitting either electronic or written comments to FDA’s Division of Dockets Management.

ADDRESSES: See section II, “How to Participate in the Public Meeting” in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about registering for the meetings, to register by phone, or to submit a notice of participation by mail, FAX, or email: Lauren Montgomery, Teya Technologies, LLC, 101 East 9th Ave., Suite 9B, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, 443–833–4297, FAX: 907–562–5497, email: lauren.montgomery@teyatech.com.

For general questions about the meetings, to request an opportunity to make an oral presentation at the public meetings, to submit the full text, comprehensive outline, or summary of an oral presentation, or for special accommodations due to a disability, contact: Juanita Yates, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS–009), Food and Drug Administration, 5100 Paint Branch Pkwy., College Park, MD 20740, 240–402–1731, email: juanita.yates@fda.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

FSMA (Pub. L. 111–353), was signed into law by President Obama on January 4, 2011, to better protect public health by helping to ensure the safety and security of the food supply. FSMA amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the FD&C Act) to establish the foundation of a modernized, prevention-based food safety system. Among other things, FSMA requires FDA to issue regulations requiring preventive controls for human food and animal food, set standards for produce safety, and require importers to have a program to verify that the food products they bring into the United States meet these new requirements. As part of this modernized food safety system, FSMA requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), to establish a program to verify that imported food meets the same safety standards as food produced domestically.

According to FSMA, the FSVP program requires importers to verify that their foreign suppliers are implementing the modern, prevention-oriented food safety practices called for by the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) and achieving the same level of food safety as domestic growers and processors. The FSVP program is intended to provide assurance that food supplied into the United States meets the same safety standards as food produced domestically. FSMA also requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through FDA, to establish a program to accredit third-party auditors and certification bodies that are used to verify that foreign food suppliers are implementing the modern, prevention-oriented food safety practices called for by the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) and achieving the same level of food safety as domestic growers and processors.

In particular, the written request for confidential treatment that accompanies the comment must include the factual and legal basis for the request, and must identify the specific portions of the comment to be withheld from the public record. See FTC Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c).