



**Slovenia**

# COMMERCIAL WARRANTIES

*Check List  
for traders*

**Are your  
commercial  
warranties or  
additional services  
offered against  
payment in line  
with consumer  
rights and  
expectations?**

  
  


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Help and advice  
for consumers  
in Europe





Commercial warranties have become an integral part of marketing. When purchasing an item, especially something expensive or fragile, consumers often expect the chance to subscribe to a commercial warranty. Particularly for audiovisual equipment or white goods, a commercial warranty can clinch the deal in the face of your competition.

But if you want to be taken seriously and win your customers' trust, offers for any such additional service must be made in accordance with your customers' rights under the legal guarantee of conformity which exists in every European Union Member State, Iceland and Norway! As a trader, for every product you sell to a consumer you are bound by the legal guarantee and you must apply it. You even have to inform your customers about it!

## Do you know your customers' rights under the legal guarantee?

## A commercial warranty and any additional services offered against payment must always give the consumer something extra.

Every commercial warranty/additional service must give benefits on top of those mentioned above. You should check the following as a minimum:

The consumer has a legal right to receive a product which is in line with the description given by the seller, has all of the features he/she might reasonably expect such an item to have, and is fit for purpose. **This legal guarantee has a duration of 2 years from the day of delivery of the goods.** For second-hand items, the duration is 1 year.

All defects discovered within the first 6 months are presumed to have existed on the day of purchase or delivery and as the seller, you are liable for this unless you can prove that the defect could not have arisen from normal use of the item. Under the legal guarantee the consumer has the **right to choose repair or exchange or a partial or total refund.** As the seller, you must satisfy your customer's request within 8 days.

In the case of a replacement, a new guarantee period for the replacement product or product part starts, unless otherwise agreed in the contract (Obligation Act). **The legal guarantee is mandatory and no seller can refuse to apply it or reduce its duration.**

You must provide the **legal guarantee free of charge**, including shipping costs and any other costs related to the claim.

Under the Slovenian Consumer Protection Act, consumer purchases of certain technical products are also covered by an obligatory 1-year guarantee issued by the producer. During this 1-year period the consumer is entitled to have any defects put right for free within 45 days. **If this requirement is not met, the consumer has the right to choose between a repair or replacement or a partial or total refund.**



### Check list for traders

Are your commercial warranties or additional services offered against payment in line with consumer rights and expectations?



***Do you correctly inform the consumer about the legal guarantee to which he/she is entitled?***

Do you indicate your general terms and conditions where reference is made to the legal guarantee? Do you respect all legal information requirements?

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***Do you clearly state who is the guarantor?***

You as the seller, the producer, a third party or an insurance company?

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***Do you clearly state the price of the service?***

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***What services are offered under the commercial warranty/insurance policy?***

For example, money back immediately, or no repair but automatic replacement? If it offers the same remedies as the legal guarantee, the commercial warranty/insurance policy might not be of interest to the consumer and offering it could constitute a misleading practice unless its duration is longer.

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***What are the duration and the starting point of the commercial warranty/insurance policy?***

As the guarantor you are free to fix the content of your warranty/insurance policy, but if it covers the same period as the legal guarantee the consumer might not see any point to it and it may be misleading unless it is more beneficial; for example if the consumer does not need to prove the existence of a defect even after six months from purchase.

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***What defects and situations are covered?***

For example, does it cover accidental breakage or other incidents not usually covered by the legal guarantee?

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***What costs are covered?***

Spare parts and labour, transport costs of the repairer, or shipping costs for returning the item? If only spare parts are covered the consumer will have to pay for the rest. Labour costs might be far more expensive than spare parts, so the consumer might not be interested in your warranty/insurance policy. How much would a consumer have to pay for shipping, technical examination of the item, etc.? On the other hand, any extra service offered for free would be beneficial and of interest to consumers comparing offers for the same product.

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***What is excluded?***

Exclusions can sometimes make a commercial warranty/insurance policy worthless. In such cases, the consumer will have no interest in purchasing insurance.

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***If your customer purchases cross-border are there any geographical restrictions to coverage under the warranty/insurance policy?***

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***How easy is it to make a claim under the commercial warranty/insurance policy?***

Who should the consumer contact and how? Be sure that the call centre is ready to handle complaints efficiently. What is the time frame for notifying you of a defect? Does the consumer need to send you the item? How long does repair or replacement take on average? Making this process easy for customers shows a high standard of customer service and can be a good marketing tool.

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***Do you offer assistance to consumers during repair or replacement?***

Do you offer a courtesy replacement while they are waiting, for example?

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**Check list for traders**

Are your commercial warranties or additional services offered against payment in line with consumer rights and expectations?



**You must inform the consumer** about the existence of the legal guarantee, the commercial warranty/insurance policy and its conditions (content, all essential elements such as duration, geographical coverage, details of the company offering it...) **before he/she is bound by contract.**

## Useful information on the legal guarantee

### *When is an item faulty in the sense of the legal guarantee?*

A product (or service) is faulty if it does not comply with the given description or if it cannot be used for normal purposes or the specific purposes requested by the consumer. The product or service is also faulty if it is not of normal quality and does not perform as can be reasonably expected.

Be aware of the remedies to which the consumer is entitled under the legal guarantee, the commercial warranty and the obligatory guarantee for technical products, and of the need to comply with the customer's request for a repair or replacement or partial or full refund within 8 days under the legal guarantee, or to put right any defects within 45 days under the obligatory guarantee. The legal guarantee and everything offered under the commercial warranty must be provided free of charge. In the case of the legal guarantee, this also includes shipping costs for returning the item.

In the event of a disagreement with a consumer based in another European Union Member State, Iceland or Norway to which an amicable solution cannot be reached, invite him/her to contact the European Consumer Centre in his/her country of residence for information and help in resolving the dispute.

### *What to do if the item is faulty?*

Provide an efficient claim service which is easy to reach for any question, or give a clear indication on your website or in the documentation accompanying the item of the process to follow when requesting application of the legal guarantee or the commercial warranty (how to contact you or the guarantor, procedure for sending back items, etc.).

**You will find  
the full list of  
addresses on**

[www.europe-consommateurs.eu/en/consumer-topics/buying-of-goods-and-services/guarantees-and-warranties/](http://www.europe-consommateurs.eu/en/consumer-topics/buying-of-goods-and-services/guarantees-and-warranties/)

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