

Open Alcohol and Health Forum

Managing Director Kari Luoto 23th November 2012



The Finnish Grocery Trade Association

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- The Finnish Grocery Trade Association (FGTA/PTY) is an association for grocery trade communities and entrepreneurs.
- The FGTA protecs the interests of its member companies and the grocery trade sector in business and political decision-making.
- It enhances and develops the general operating conditions of both its member companies and the overall grocery trade.
- FGTA's member companies represent approximately 98 % of grocery sales in Finland.
- FTGA is a member of the Federation of Finnish Commerce (member of EuroCommerce).



Minimum legal age for selling alcoholic beverages in Finland

- Mild alcoholic beverages → 18 years
- Strong alcoholic beverages → 20 years
- Tobacco → 18 years
- → Grocery stores are allowed to sell alcoholic beverages at most 4,7 % alcohol by volume.



Cashiers' "Age-Limit Passport"

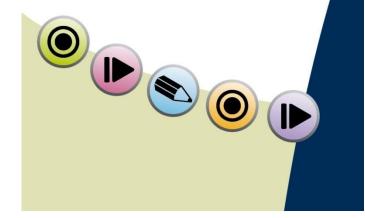
- In 2009 the board of FGTA made decision that all cashiers would be educated in an uniform training program concerning all age-limited products.
- Based on FGTA's own-control manual on sale of age-restricted products (best practises).
- "Age-Limit Passport" is required of all cashiers in FGTA's member companies.
- Cashiers have to pass a test.
- A permanent requirement.
- Co-operation with educational institutions and companies leasing work force to retailers.



Printed learning material

 Training is possible also without a computer and internet connection.

Kassahenkilön ikärajaopas



Sisällys

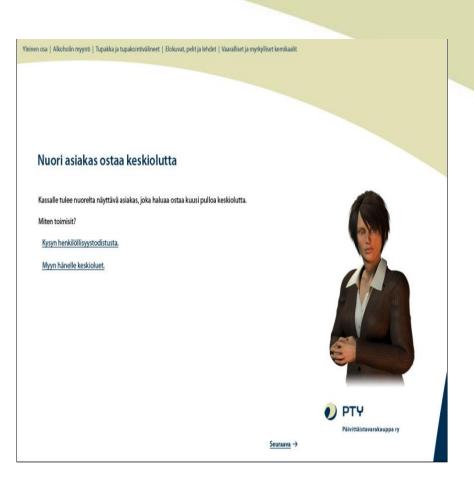
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E-learning

- The e-learning material offers the same information as the printed learning material.
- The information has been adapted to suit an electronic environment
- Exercises stimulate student's own thinking





Simulation

- Simulation is a very effective way of rehearsing cashier's customer service and interaction skills.
- Student faces situations close to the real life. The choices that he/she makes, have an impact on customer's reactions.
- A virtual coach mentors the student giving him/her feedback.





The test

- The test can be done either with a computer or on paper.
- When the test is passed, the student gets an official, printed Age-Limit Passport as a proof for the passed test.







The FGTA's member company employees and business students have acquired more than 60.000 age limit passports between early 2009 and spring 2012.



New reference age for the retail of alcoholic beverages and tobacco products $23 \rightarrow 30$ years



The retail sector is a responsible seller of products with legal age limits

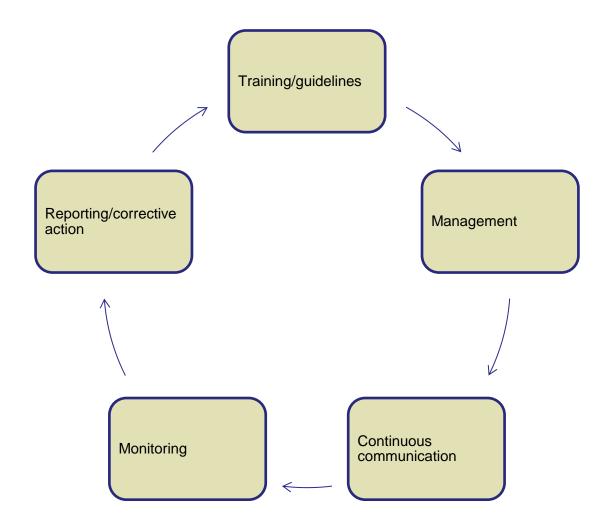
 Starting on 7 January 2013, verify the age of all customers who appear younger than 30 purchasing alcohol or tobacco products.



- The goal is to completely prevent the sale of alcohol and tobacco products to underage customers.
- This strict objective requires that age verification be performed more frequently, also on customers of legal age.
 - → Age verification and displaying identification documents will be made into more of an everyday routine for both cashiers and customers.
- This change is based on an amendment to the Finnish Grocery Trade
 Association's guidelines on monitoring age limits. The legal minimum ages for
 the products have not changed.



Continuous action





Measures to support the responsible retail of alcohol

- 1 Preventing sales to underage customers
 - New reference age + other measures
- Information on the moderate consumption of alcoholic beverages
 - Education efforts in partnership with the Finnish Federation of the Brewing and Soft Drinks Industry online at kohtuullisesti.fi.
- 3 Preventing buyers of legal age from purchasing alcohol for underage customers
 - Plans for a joint campaign with the Ministry and other actors in the field.



Thank you!

Finnish Grocery Trade Association



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