

## Chapter 24

# VIETNAM<sup>1</sup>

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## Introduction

Product liability law in Vietnam is still underdeveloped. Although some general provisions on tort liability are included in the *Civil Code*, Vietnam still does not have any detailed implementing regulations on tort law. Because Vietnam applies a civil law system, detailed implementing regulations are essential for the law to be applied in practice.

So far, there have been very few cases in Vietnam's courts related to product liability. In practice at present, product liability law in Vietnam primarily concerns the compliance by producers with national product standards, and the administrative handling of violations of such standards. For example, if a product is found to not meet standards, it is most likely that the company will be subject to an administrative fine and sanctions (such as being ordered to cease production), but no civil action will be taken.

An overview of Vietnam's product liability laws is set out below.

## Theories of product liability/ Sources of law

Vietnam is a statutory (civil code) jurisdiction. For several years, the government has been promulgating new laws and regulations at a rapid pace in order to accommodate the opening of Vietnam's markets to foreign and private sector participation. Each new announcement brings additional clarity along with new gaps, questions and ambiguities.

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