

Retailers, Makers Fined \$6.6 Million for Digital TV

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US federal regulators fined Wal-Mart, Best Buy, Sears, Frys and other retailers \$3.9 million in all for not properly labeling analog-only TVs for the switch to digital TV next year.

The FCC also gave \$2.7 million in fines to other companies for violating other digital TV rules that involve shipping analog equipment and blocking technologies such as the V-chip.

Retailers in USA must display or affix "consumer alert" labels to analog-only TV equipment (TVs, DVDs, videocassette recorders and DVRs) that says it will not receive signals after the nationwide digital transition - without a special converter box.

The FCC conducted numerous inspections, issued warnings to companies, whose stores and Web sites across the country were in violation of the rule: all apparently went unheeded.

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