Title:
Uniform Law on the International Sale of Goods

Table of Contents:

Chapter I - Sphere of Application of the Law
   Article 3

Chapter II - General Provisions
   Article 9
   Article 15

Chapter III - Obligations of the Seller
   Section I - Delivery of the Goods
      Sub-Section 2 - Obligations of the Seller as Regards the Conformity of the Goods
         B. Ascertainment and Notification of Lack of Conformity
            Article 39

Chapter IV - Obligations of the Buyer
   Section I - Payment of the Price
      B. Place and Date of Payment
         Article 60

Chapter V - Provisions Common to the Obligations of the Seller and of the Buyer
   Section II - Exemptions
      Article 74
   Section IV - Supplementary Rules Concerning Damages
      A. Damages where the Contract is not avoided
         Article 82
         Article 83

Content:

Chapter I - Sphere of Application of the Law

[...]

Article 3

The parties to a contract of sale shall be free to exclude the application thereto of the present Law either entirely or partially. Such exclusion may be express or implied.

[...]

Chapter II - General Provisions

Article 9

1. The parties shall be bound by any usage which they have expressly or impliedly made applicable to their contract and by any practices which they have established between themselves.

2. They shall also be bound by usages which reasonable persons in the same situation as the parties usually consider to be applicable to their contract. In the event of conflict with the present Law, the usages shall prevail unless otherwise agreed by the parties.
3. Where expressions, provisions or forms of contract commonly used in commercial practice are employed, they shall be interpreted according to the meaning usually given to them in the trade concerned.

[...]

Article 15

A contract of sale need not be evidenced by writing and shall not be subject to any other requirements as to form. In particular, it may be proved by means of witnesses

[...]

Chapter III - Obligations of the Seller

Section I - Delivery of the Goods

Sub-Section 2 - Obligations of the Seller as Regards the Conformity of the Goods

B. Ascertainment and Notification of Lack of Conformity

[...]

Article 39

1. The buyer shall lose the right to rely on a lack of conformity of the goods if he has not given the seller notice thereof promptly after he discovered the lack of conformity or ought to have discovered it. If a defect which could not have been revealed by the examination of the goods provided for in Article 38 is found later, the buyer may nonetheless rely on that defect, provided that he gives the seller notice thereof promptly after its discovery. In any event, the buyer shall lose the right to rely on a lack of conformity of the goods if he has not given notice thereof to the seller within a period of two years from the date on which the goods were handed over, unless the lack of conformity constituted a breach of a guarantee covering a longer period.

2. In giving notice to the seller of any lack of conformity, the buyer shall specify its nature and invite the seller to examine the goods or to cause them to be examined by his agent.

3. Where any notice referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article has been sent by letter, telegram or other appropriate means, the fact that such notice is delayed or fails to arrive at its destination shall not deprive the buyer of the right to rely thereon.

[...]

Chapter IV - Obligations of the Buyer

Section I - Payment of the Price

B. Place and Date of Payment

[...]

Article 60

Where the parties have agreed upon a date for the payment of the price or where such date is fixed by usage, the buyer shall, without the need for any other formality, pay the price at that date.

Chapter V - Provisions Common to the Obligations of the Seller and of the Buyer

Section II - Exemptions

Article 74
1. Where one of the parties has not performed one of his obligations, he shall not be liable for such non-performance if he can prove that it was due to circumstances which, according to the intention of the parties at the time of the conclusion of the contract, he was not bound to take into account or to avoid or to overcome; in the absence of any expression of the intention of the parties, regard shall be had to what reasonable persons in the same situation would have intended.

2. Where the circumstances which gave rise to the non-performance of the obligation constituted only a temporary impediment to performance, the party in default shall nevertheless be permanently relieved of his obligation if, by reason of the delay, performance would be so radically changed as to amount to the performance of an obligation quite different from that contemplated by the contract.

3. The relief provided by this Article for one of the parties shall not exclude the avoidance of the contract under some other provision of the present Law or deprive the other party of any right which he has under the present Law to reduce the price, unless the circumstances which entitled the first party to relief were caused by the act of the other party or of some person for whose conduct he was responsible.

Section IV - Supplementary Rules Concerning Damages

A. Damages where the Contract is not avoided

Article 82

Where the contract is not avoided, damages for a breach of contract by one party shall consist of a sum equal to the loss, including loss of profit, suffered by the other party. Such damages shall not exceed the loss which the party in breach ought to have foreseen at the time of the conclusion of the contract, in the light of the facts and matters which then were known or ought to have been known to him, as a possible consequence of the breach of the contract.

Article 83

Where the breach of contract consists of delay in the payment of the price, the seller shall in any event be entitled to interest on such sum as is in arrears at a rate equal to the official discount rate in the country where he has his place of business or, if he has no place of business, his habitual residence, plus 1%.

http://www.unidroit.org/english/conventions/c-main.htm

Referring Principles:

- I.2.2 - Trade usages
- IV.4.1 - Freedom of form
- VI.2 - Deadline for notice of defects
- VI.3 - Force majeure
- VII.2 - Principle of foreseeability of loss
- VII.6 - Duty to pay interest