

CMR Restrictions in Toys

Carcinogenic, Mutagenic and Repro-Toxic (CMR)
Requirements under the New EU Toy Safety Directive

Intertek

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Under the new EU Toy Directive 88/378/EEC, new legal requirements covering chemicals in toys take effect July 20, 2013. Do you have a plan in place to ensure your toys comply with these forthcoming chemical requirements?

One of the major new chemical restrictions in the EU Toy Directive relates to CMR chemicals in toys, which are chemicals that are carcinogenic, mutagenic and/or toxic to reproduction. Although chemical requirements will not take effect until July 20, 2013, according to the official EU guidance document on the new Toy Safety Directive 2009/48/EC, the chemical safety assessment (CSA) for toys is required as of July 2011. The CSA process must cover the various new chemical requirements, including those related to CMRs.



Our services include:

- CMR Screening Test
- REACH SVHC Screening Test
- Chemical Safety Assessment



The Challenge

The new EU Toy Directive 2009/48/EC states that CMRs shall not be used in toys, components of toys or micro-structurally distinct parts of toys. Micro-structurally distinct parts are similar to “homogeneous material” as applied to the ROHS directive, which is intended to ensure that all areas of a toy that are relevant to the safety of the child are considered.

The EU classifies numerous CMRs, which are primarily chemicals derived from petroleum and coal. Volatile CMRs that are frequently used in solvents or as monomers of plastics may be found in residual amounts if the toy or its components contain paint coatings, plastics, adhesive, etc. Toys that contain soft plastics with an obvious odor, such as benzene, toluene, phenol, dichloromethane, vinyl chloride and n-hexane, have the potential to emit volatile CMRs.

It is important that toy manufacturers are aware of the potential impact of CMRs in toys before the chemical restrictions go into effect so that they can evaluate the possible presence of these CMRs in their products.

Points to note:

CMRs are classified as category 1A, 1B or 2 under Regulation 1272/2008 referred to as the CLP Regulation.

- Category 1A: Known to have carcinogenic potential for humans largely based on human evidence
- Category 1B: Presumed to have carcinogenic potential for humans largely based on human evidence
- Category 2: Suspected human carcinogens with limited evidence

The Solution

Intertek offers an efficient and cost-effective solution to screen for the presence of volatile CMRs in your products. Intertek uses sophisticated chromatographic techniques that are in line with mass spectrometry technology and incorporate a huge chemical library.

Screening for volatile CMRs helps ensure your toy products in compliance with the existing and future requirements, while at the same manages testing expenditures because potential problems are detected early in the manufacturing process.

Intertek has the expertise, resources and global reach to support our customers through our network of more than 1,000 laboratories and offices and over 30,000 people in 100 countries around the world.

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