Unsafe and poorly made toys pose a substantial threat to the health and safety of consumers which is why most countries around the world have stringent requirements concerning not only the physical and mechanical elements of the toy but also chemical properties, flammability and hygiene. These requirements have been put in place to ensure their consumers are protected.

For many decades, companies around the world have relied on Intertek to issue them with the necessary certificates of conformity and to carry out pre-shipment inspections that ensure their products comply with each importing country’s requirements.

If you want to ensure your goods clear customs smoothly in Algeria, Bangladesh, Ecuador, Kuwait, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Mozambique, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, The Philippines, Uganda or Uzbekistan you will need to comply with these countries’ requirements.

Why comply?
Smooth customs clearance can only occur when you comply with each country’s specific requirements.
The Intertek solution to Product Conformity and Pre-shipment inspection

Toys are mostly governed by compliance to International standards such as EN 71-1 and its applicable parts. However, certain countries impose additional requirements based on other factors (such as religious sentiments etc).

Listed below are a few such country specific requirements for Toys where a Certificate of Conformity is mandatory. Intertek is able to issue these certificates and more.

KENYA

Toys are regulated products under the PVoC programme and would require a certificate of conformity for their export to Kenya. Electrical toys need to operate on a rated voltage or voltage range incorporating 230V or 240V and 50Hz Frequency and plugs fitted to the supply cords shall have a configuration in accordance with BS 1363.

All products shall have a marking of “Country of Origin” – KS 1829

KUWAIT

Kuwait Conformity Assurance Scheme (KUCAS) requires that every consignment of imported goods which contains regulated products must be accompanied by a Technical Inspection Report (TIR).

Electrical toys need to operate on 230V or 240V and 50Hz Frequency. Any test documentation shall however, show conformity to relevant standard during testing at a mains voltage incorporating 240V. Plugs attached to supply cords shall have a plug configuration according to:

- BS 1363* for appliances rated up to 13 Amps

All appliances shall be marked with country of origin (MOCI Dec. 4/1988)

NIGERIA

In 2005, the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) implemented guidelines called the Standards Organisation of Nigeria Conformity Assessment Programme (SONCAP) where every consignment must be accompanied by a SONCAP Certificate. Electrical toys need to operate on a rated Voltage 230 Volts or 415 Volts and 50Hz Frequency and plugs attached to supply cords shall have a configuration according to BS 1363 or BS 546.

Intertek is an approved Certification/Inspection Body (CIB) operating the SONCAP programme and can issue the required SONCAP Certificate.

SAUDI ARABIA

All Consumer Goods including toys being imported into the country are now required to have a Certificate of Conformity to clear Customs as per MOCI Decree 6386.

Toys designed to be in regular contact with the skin or mouth shall only use food grade dyes (SASO 1063) and wooden toys shall be painted with non-toxic polyurethane free of chromium, lead and cadmium (SASO 1063).

Outdoor toys made wholly or essentially of ferrous metal shall be adequately protected against corrosion (SASO 1063)

Products and packaging shall not be offensive to the Islamic religion. In particular toys shall not include derivatives from pigs have pictures of pigs, pig shapes or crosses.

Electrical toys need to operate on 127 or 220 V and 60Hz Frequency and warnings have to be in English and Arabic languages and should be easily noticeable.