New York State Approves Ban on TRIS in Child Care Products

On 1 August, 2011, the Governor of New York State signed to approve a bill into the Children and Babies Act. The aim of this act is to prohibit the sale of child care products containing the flame retardant TRIS compounds and would be effective on December 1, 2013. Resale child care products are excluded specifically from this ban.

The Challenge:

New York State is the first state to ban products for children containing the toxic TRIS flame retardant. The act defines:

- "Child care product" as a consumer product intended for use by children under three years of age, such as: baby products, toys, car seats, nursing pillows, crib mattresses and strollers;
- "TRIS" to include Tris(2-chloroethyl)phosphate, commonly known as TCEP.

Tris (2-chloroethyl)phosphate is a low viscous and low acidic flame retardant additive used in flexible and rigid polyurethane and polyisocyanurate foam, unsaturated polyester resins, PVC, adhesives, elastomers, cellulose acetate, nitrocellulose, epoxy resins, etc. Under normal temperatures and conditions, TCEP is relatively stable.

Specific studies have shown that TCEP is a reproductive toxicant, and its neurotoxicity properties can damage kidneys, liver, brain and can develop neurogenic defects on young children.

The Solution:

Intertek, dedicated to total customer focus and being your trusted quality assurance partner, has the complete capability in testing different kinds of flame retardant, including TRIS, TCEP, TEPA, HBCDD, PBB, PBDE, etc. Partnership with Intertek brings increased value to your product and process, and ultimately paves the way for success in the marketplace.

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