Industry Leaders Partner to Offer Companies Smarter Operating Models for Today’s Transformed Business Environment

Intertek and TQM Consultants Co. Partner to Form ITQM to Provide Innovative Solutions for Aligning Leaner Manufacturing with Improved Quality and Long-term Business Sustainability

Hong Kong – 25 March 2009 – Intertek, a leading provider of quality and safety solutions serving a wide range of industries around the world, announced today it has partnered with TQM Consultants Co Limited to form the joint venture – ITQM Company Limited.

The initial scope of services offered by ITQM will focus on assisting companies to integrate “smart,” innovative quality, productivity and supply chain efficiency processes into their operations. These processes will work synergistically with business sustainability systems that foster the high-level social and environmental performance now expected of world-class companies.

Intertek’s Executive Vice President, Paul Yao, noted: “In joining with TQM to combine the high-level expertise of our respective areas of focus and markets, we will provide a broad array of innovative and effective business improvement solutions to help our global, regional and local partners and customers better compete and succeed in the ever-changing business environment.”

Intertek’s people, engaged in a wide range of quality and safety solutions – from auditing Intertek’s new partner, TQM Consultants, is a leading provider of one-stop, value-added consultancy services and solutions to a wide range of clients, from small businesses to Fortune 500 multi-national companies.

About TQM Consultants Co Limited

TQM is a management consulting and transformation training provider assisting clients, ranging from SMEs to multinational corporations to government departments, in achieving world-class management as well as improving productivity, business effectiveness and profitability (Time (T), Quality (Q), Money (M)) with supportive and motivated teams. Since its establishment in 1994, quality, innovation and commitment drive TQM to emphasize on new knowledge and skills in management, and bring clients new techniques, such as Six Sigma, Business Process Re-engineering, Lean Business, as well as fundamental alignment in individual, team and corporate goals and objectives.

Intertek and TQM Consultants Co. Partner to Form ITQM to Provide Innovative Solutions for Aligning Leaner Manufacturing with Improved Quality and Long-term Business Sustainability
and inspection, to testing, quality assurance and certification, are dedicated to adding value to customers’ products and processes and supporting their overall success in the global marketplace. Intertek has the expertise, resources and global reach to support its customers through its network of more than 1,000 laboratories and offices and over 23,000 people in more than 100 countries around the world.

Intertek’s new partner, TQM Consultants, is a leading provider of one-stop, value-added consultancy services and solutions to a wide range of clients, from small businesses to Fortune 500 multi-national companies; from private / publicly listed NGO’s to HKSAR/Macau SAR Government Departments; and from manufacturing, servicing to construction in Hong Kong, the PRC and the Asia Pacific Region. Through ACT-N-ACHIEVE™ LEAN methodology and mindset transformation, TQM is committed to delivering comprehensive, high quality consultancy services and helping the clients create values, business advantages, and achieve business excellence and success.

Aaron TONG, the Managing Director of TQM Consultants remarked: “We are happy to announce a NEW PAGE of TQM as we decided to join hands with Intertek to offer fundamental and practical solutions to help enterprises and manufacturers overcome difficulties, reduce costs, grow stronger and succeed.”

Grand Opening of ITQM Company Ltd
On 17 April 2009, the Grand Opening Ceremony of ITQM was held at the Renaissance Kowloon Hotel, Hong Kong. ITQM was honoured to have Mr. Cliff Sun, JP, Deputy Chairman of the Federation of Hong Kong Industries to be the officiating guest. The event was attended by many industrialists including Dr. Roy Chung and Mr. Daniel Cheng, both Deputy Chairmen of the Federation of Hong Kong Industries.

After the ribbon cutting ceremony performed by the officiating guest and the top management of ITQM, Mr. Sun delivered an inspiring speech on the “Way-out from the Financial & Economic Tsunami”. Mr. Sun shared the current acute economic situation, and his personal experience on how to face the challenges and flourish. Mr. Sun concluded his speech with a recommendation for the industrialists to engage ITQM to increase their competitiveness.

Following the insightful speech of Mr. Sun, Ir. Dr. Aaron Tong, Managing Director of TQM and Operation Manager of ITQM, shared his experience and expertise on how entrepreneurs could “Improve their Time, Quality and Money” with ITQM through improving their productivity and reducing costs with ITQM’s services. The audience showed great interest and energy, and raised many questions.

Mr. Henry Ng, LEAN Project Manager and future successor of Silcon Electronics Co. Ltd., a pioneer brand watches manufacturer, shared his company’s success in LEAN implementation with the audience. Mr. Ng expressed his appreciation of ITQM’s “Act-N-Achieve” LEAN services that has greatly improved Silcon’s new product development cycle, productivity, product and process quality, and cost-effectiveness.

For further information, please visit: www.intertek.com and www.tqm.com.hk

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Canada’s Competition Bureau Calls on Textile Dealers to Correctly Label Textile Articles Derived from Bamboo

A n increase in claims of textiles being “bamboo”, “made from bamboo” or containing “bamboo fibers” has promoted the Competition Bureau of Canada to reaffirm its position that, whenever an article is made of man-made rayon fibers derived from bamboo, the generic fiber name must first make reference to “rayon” or the corresponding chemical process outlined in the Textile Labelling and Advertising Regulations (TLAR) of Canada, and may be followed by the words “from bamboo”, so long the source of rayon is bamboo.

There are two types of products derived from the bamboo plant. One is true “bamboo fiber”, the other is “rayon” derived from the bamboo plant.

Natural bamboo fiber is extracted directly from bamboo culms (the plant stems). Fabrics made from this fiber can be labeled as “bamboo”.

Production of “rayon from bamboo” follows the same principle involved in producing conventional rayon man-made fiber. In this case, the cellulose is extracted from bamboo plants. Fabrics made from this fiber cannot be labeled as bamboo, they need to be labeled as “rayon”.

Paragraph 26 (2)(c) of the TLAR states that: The generic name for a textile fiber that is made from regenerated cellulose is “rayon”, but where that fiber has been made by:

• The cuprammonium process, “cupro”, “cupro rayon”, “cuprammonium” or “cuprammonium rayon” may be used as its generic name;
• The viscose process, “viscose” or “viscose rayon” may be used as its generic name;
• A modified viscose process so that is has a high wet modulus, “modal” or modal rayon” may be used as its generic name; or,

• A solvent extrusion process, where no chemical intermediates are formed, “lyocell” or “lyocell rayon may be used as its generic name.

The proper generic name will vary depending on which particular cellulose process was used. Where an article is made of man-made rayon fibers derived from bamboo, the generic fiber name must first make reference to either “rayon” or the corresponding process outlined in the TLAR, followed by the words “from bamboo”. Examples of acceptable generic names include “rayon”, “viscose”, “rayon from bamboo”, and “viscose from bamboo”.

Until 31 August 2009, textile dealers will be permitted to sell in Canada existing stocks of textile articles that were in production, manufactured, labelled or packaged, in the ordinary course of business, prior to 11 March 2009 which have been incorrectly labelled “bamboo”. After 31 August the Bureau will conduct marketplace surveillance to ensure compliance with the TLAR.

Products made from man-made fibers derived from bamboo are often accompanied by performance representations such as “naturally antibacterial” or “UV protective”. Such performance claims must be supported by proper and adequate testing.

Similarly, labels on textile products containing man-made fibers derived from bamboo often make environmental claims such as “eco-friendly”, “organically grown”, or “biodegradable”. Environmental claims for textiles must meet the requirements outlined in the Bureau’s guidelines on Environmental claims: a Guide for Industry and Advertisers by June 2009.

For more details on this Competition Bureau bulletin, please contact your Customer Service Representative, or Technical Services

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Canada Exempts Padded Undergarments, Shoulder Pads and Trimmings from Stuffed Articles Labeling and Registration Requirements

As of 1 January 2009, sellers of padded undergarments, and as of 1 July 2009 sellers of clothing containing shoulder pads and trimmings in the province of Ontario in Canada were supposed to be licensed by the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA), and the items were supposed to be labeled in accordance with Ontario’s “Upholstered and Stuffed Articles Program”.

However, Ontario’s Ministry of Small Business and Consumer Services has amended Ontario Regulation #218/01 (Upholstered and Stuffed Articles) by removing padded undergarments and shoulder pads and trimmings on articles of clothing from the regulation. The amendment, effective 5 December 2008, reverses earlier decisions which stated that padded undergarments were to be in compliance with the regulation by 1 January 2009 and shoulder pads and trimmings were to be in compliance with the regulation by 1 July 2009. The latest amendment means that padded undergarments and shoulder pads and trimmings are all exempt from Ontario’s “Upholstered and Stuffed Articles Program”.

The details on the exemption can be found in the below website:
http://www.tssa.org/CorpLibrary/ArticleFileMain.asp?Instance=136&ID=238089F41E0446B8C28DAAA5E0F9229

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The EU Textile Names Directive Has Been Recast as 2008/121/EC

What is the history of the EU Textile Names Directive?

Originally published in 1996, EU Directive 96/74/EC on textile names requires the labelling of the fibre composition of textile products. It stipulates for checks on whether the composition of textile products is in conformity with the information supplied.

Due to the addition of various new generic fibre names over the years, there have been a number of other Directives published since then, namely EU Directives 97/37/EC, 2004/34/EC, 2006/3/EC and 2007/3/EC.

Why has it been recast?

Because 96/74/EC has been substantially amended several times by the above Directives, the Commission decided it should be recast in the interests of clarity.


What does this mean to me? Will the retailers have to make any changes?

Essentially it is the Directive number that is different. The rules and regulations about correct generic fibre names, what parts of garments to include/exclude, etc have not changed.

You may simply see this new Directive number being referred to, instead of all the previous ones.

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EU Proposes Another New Generic Fibre Name

The latest proposed new fibre name is "melamine".

Melamine has good flame resistance, low thermal conductivity and high heat stability. These properties mean that it lends itself to specialised end uses such as aircraft seating and protective clothing (heat resistant gloves, molten metal splash clothing, etc).

The proposed definition for melamine and the suggested quantitative method of analysis can be found as part of a much larger document covering how new fibre names will be incorporated into future EU legislation at http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2009:0031:FIN:EN:PDF

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EU Publishes Decision 2009/251/EC Banning the Use of Dimethyl Fumarate (DMF)

Published today in the EU Official Journal is Commission Decision 2009/251/EC requiring Member States to ensure that products containing the biocide dimethyl fumarate are not placed or made available on the market.

What is Dimethyl Fumarate?
It is a substance which has been used as a fungicide in leather products, for example, to prevent mould forming that may deteriorate leather, furniture, footwear or leather accessories during storage or transport in a humid climate.

Why is it a problem?
Several EU Member States - France, Finland, Poland, Sweden and the UK - have reported problems where leather furniture and footwear has caused hundreds of consumers to experience severe and painful allergic reactions. These allergies have been linked with the use of DMF in these products. The Commission Decision explains further.

DMF was most often contained in little pouches fixed inside the furniture or added to the footwear boxes. It thus evaporated and impregnated the product, protecting it from moulds. However, it then also affected consumers who were in contact with the products. DMF penetrated through the clothes onto consumers’ skin where it caused painful skin contact dermatitis, including itching, irritation, redness, and burns; in some cases, acute respiratory troubles were reported. The dermatitis was particularly difficult to treat. The presence of DMF is thus a serious risk.

What does the Commission Decision require?
• As of 1 May 2009 Member States shall ensure that products containing DMF are prohibited from being placed or made available on the market.
• As of 1 May 2009 Member States shall ensure that products containing DMF and already placed or made available on the market are withdrawn from the market and recalled from consumers, and that consumers are adequately informed of the risk posed by such products.

What does “containing DMF” mean?
There are specific definitions for “products containing DMF” given in the Decision. “Product containing DMF” means any product or any part of a product where either:
• The presence of DMF is declared, such as on one or more pouches; or
• The concentration of DMF is greater than 0.1 mg/kg of the weight of the product or part of the product;

Testing for DMF
Test methods used to detect DMF must have a limit of detection of 0.1mg/kg or less.

Intertek has developed a suitable test method and this test is available at a number of Intertek locations.

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CPSC Stay Of Enforcement of Testing and Certification Requirements

On 30 January 2009 the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a stay on enforcement of testing and certification requirements until 10 February 2010. This stay delays enforcement of certain third party testing and General Conformity Certificate (GCC) requirements under § 14(a) of Consumer Product Safety Act (CPSA) as amended by § 102 of Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA). Toys and children’s products, however, are still required to comply with all applicable regulations.

The stay provides the CPSC time to seek input from the industry as well as perform scientific investigations to complete a number of ongoing and projected rulemakings. The stay also provides a short but welcome relief for the children’s product industry, where they can educate themselves of the applicability of the CPSIA and other relevant regulations to their product/product lines and ensure compliance with those standards.

The stay does not apply to the GCC requirement based on third party testing for:
1) Lead in paint/surface coating (16 CFR 1303)
2) Small parts (16 CFR 1501)
3) Cribs (16 CFR 1508-1509)
4) Pacifiers (16 CFR 1511)
5) Lead in children’s metal jewelry

To reemphasize, the stay does not relieve the children’s product industry from complying with the underlying requirements, including lead content, phthalates and ASTM F963 once those requirements become effective from 10 February 2009.

Reference:

For further information on the CPSIA, please visit: http://www.intertek-labtest.com/resources/CPSIAInfo/?lang=en

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ASTM F963-08 Published

In its ongoing efforts to reflect the latest issues and emerging hazards in the realm of toy safety, ASTM has published its latest revision to F963, Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety. The 2008 version of the standard contains revised sections on ingestion of magnetic components, impaction hazards, acoustics, flammability and many others.
The Challenge:

• Magnets: Revisions account for incidents of ingestion due to magnetic components that were small parts of a toy and to reflect the age of children involved in the incidents. Size requirement for magnets and magnetic components has been increased to the small parts cylinder, and the age requirement has also been extended to toys for children up to 14 years of age. In addition, it includes special use and abuse requirements to avoid magnets from detaching from components during play.

• Acoustics: Continuous sounds requirements for the pass-by test for push/pull toys have been replaced by the impulsive sounds requirements. The revisions to this section also provided further harmonization between F963 and the European toy standard, EN71-1.

• Yo-Yo Elastic Tether Toys: Exemption for sports balls with wrist or ankle straps longer than 70 cm intended to be kicked or thrown and returned to the user has been added. The length of the strap shall be measured when the product is placed on a horizontal surface with no load.

• Impaction hazards: Toys intended for children between the ages of 18 and 48 months that include nail, screw and bolt shapes that weigh less than 1.1 lb and incorporate spherical or hemispherical ends attached to a shaft or handle, shall be so designed that such ends are not capable of entering and penetrating past the full depth of the cavity of the supplemental test fixture. This requirement shall be tested under the force only of its own weight and in a noncompressed state.

• Flammability: Definition of major axis has been re-defined, while the definition of accessories, strings, and paper have been added. Exemptions for packaging materials, textile fabrics, and sleeping bags have also been revised. Packaging materials that are likely to be incorporated into the play pattern of the toy will not be exempted. A secondary test condition has been added if the burn rate of the toy exceeds 0.1 in/s in part due to the presence of a permanently attached fabric. New flammability testing procedures for fabrics have been added.

• Folding Mechanisms and Hinges: The scope of this section has been revised to toy products intended or likely to support the weight of a child in normal use. Folding mechanisms now include requirements for locking devices or other means to prevent unexpected or sudden movement or collapse of the article. The locking device shall engage automatically when the product is placed in the manufacturer’s recommended use position. A loading test has been added to check the rigidity of the folding mechanism and locks.

• Jaw Entrapment in Handles & Steering Wheels: A newly added requirement to the F963-08 version to address potential jaw entrapment in handles and steering wheels that are located such that they are accessible for teething in the following categories of toys intended for children under 18 months of age: activity tables intended to be played with by a standing child, large bulky toys, stationary floor toys, push toys intended to be pushed by a child walking upright, and ride-on toys. Handles or hinges connected to the toy made with pliable material (straps and ropes) will be considered exempt.

• Toy Chests: The toy chest requirements have been deleted from this version of F963, as they are considered as furniture and not a toy. Toy chests will be covered by a separate standard ASTM F834.

Requirements for testing of lead in toys have not been changed from the F963-07 version of the standard cited in the Consumer Products Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) of 2008. Under the CPSIA, the Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety Standard, ASTM F963, shall become a mandatory toy safety standard under section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety Act. However, the Commission has issued a “1 year stay of enforcement” therefore third-party testing and certification for ASTM F963 is expected to be
enforced in Feb 2010. Even so, manufacturers must still continue to ensure their products meet the requirements of the law.

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Canada Declares Certain Chemicals Used in Cosmetics Toxic

The Minister of the Environment, together with the Minister of Health, announced on 30 January 2009 the publication of final conclusions and initial risk management approaches for Batch 2 substances in the Chemicals Management Plan. Of the 16 substances assessed in Batch 2, five were found to be of concern to human health (Thiourea, Pigment Yellow 34, Pigment Red 104, Isoprene and Epichlorohydrin) and three to the environment (Siloxanes D4 and D5, and 2,4,6-tri-tert-butylphenol or TTBP).

Siloxanes D4, D5 and D6 are ingredients that can be found in most personal care products on the Canadian market. They are also used in many other applications such as textiles, paints and coatings, antiperspirants, sealants, lubricants, plastics, non-medical ingredients in pharmaceuticals, silicone polymers, food additives, surface treatments for wounds, and medical devices. Siloxanes D4 and D5 will be added to the Cosmetic Ingredient Hotlist to prevent future use in cosmetics. To further limit the amount of D4 and D5 that is released to the environment, the Canadian government is proposing regulations to set a concentration limit for D4 and D5 in products.

Siloxanes are also present in therapeutic products such as medicated shampoo and sunscreen. Consumers can continue to use these products as directed, and these uses are not targeted for further action. The final assessment concludes that D6 is currently not of concern to the environment. D6 does not react in the environment the same way as D4 and D5.

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Argentina Publishes New Resolution for Lead Limits

The Argentine Government has published a new Resolution 7/2009 pertaining to the lead limit requirements for paints, lacquers and varnishes. According to the Resolution, on and after 19 April 2009, the importation, sale or distribution of paints, lacquers and varnishes that contain more than 0.06% of non-volatile mass of lead will be prohibited. Certificates of Compliance shall accompany the products during importation. The National Institute of Industrial Technology (INTI) will be responsible for the certification process, and Certification System N° 4, 5 or N° 7 will be applied for compliance.

Exclusion:
Paintings, lacquers and varnishes used in graphical art for artistic use; agricultural and industrial equipment; industrial, agricultural and commercial metallic structures; bridges and harbor works; markings and signs of transit and security; automotive vehicles, airplanes, boats and railroads are excluded. However, certificates shall also be provided by INTI, and the following caution statement in Spanish shall be labelled on the packages of excluded products that exceed the limit:

ADVERTENCIA: Este producto contiene plomo. Su ingestión provoca daño a la salud. Producto de uso exclusivo para...

Meaning: “WARNING: This product contains lead. Its ingestion brings about damage to the health. Product of exclusive use for ……”
EN 1273:2005 Baby Walkers Now Harmonised Under the GPSD

From 17 February 2009 baby walkers complying EN 1273:2005 now have a presumption of conformity to the general safety requirement of the General Product Safety Directive (GPSD) 2001/95/EC. The addition of EN 1273:2005 was the only change to the latest list of safety standards harmonised under the GPSD recently published in the EU Official Journal 1.

Although these standards are technically voluntary, harmonisation means that they offer the simplest route of demonstrating the safety of a product covered by the GPSD, as far as its safety aspects are covered by the standard. To recap, under the GPSD producers (and to some extent distributors) are responsible for ensuring that only safe products are placed on the market. An assessment of whether or not a product is a “safe product” takes into account the hierarchy of available safety requirements.

Firstly, certain requirements offer a presumption of conformity to the general safety requirement of the GPSD:

1. Specific national laws of the Member State in which the product is being marketed.
   For example, the UK’s Pencils and Graphic Instruments (Safety) Regulations 1998 SI No. 2406.
2. Voluntary national standards transposing a European standard, the references of which have been published in the Official Journal of the European Union (for example EN 1272:2005 and the other safety standards in the new list).
   This presumption is rebuttable and can be legally challenged by the enforcement authorities. Therefore it’s possible, if unusual, for a product still to be deemed “unsafe”, despite compliance!!

Secondly:
3. Other voluntary national standards transposing a European standard.
4. National standards of the Member State in which the product is being marketed.
   For example, BS 7272-1:2008 and BS 7272-2:2008, the UK national standards for the safety of pen caps and end caps, respectively.
5. EU Commission recommendations setting guidelines on product safety assessment.
6. Industry codes of good practice.
7. The state of the art and technology.
8. Reasonable consumer expectations concerning safety.

Care must be taken that all of the safety aspects of the product have been covered. Otherwise, a product meeting specific national legislation, standards and other specifications may still fail to meet the general safety requirement of the GPSD due to a hazard that has not been addressed.

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EU Ban Extended on Novelty and Non-child-resistant Lighters

The EU ban on novelty lighters and non-child-resistant cigarette lighters has been extended until 11 May 2010 by Decision 2009/298/EC1. The original ban applied from 11 March 2007, as a temporary measure under Article 13 of the General Product Safety Directive
2001/95/EC, which can only remain valid for up to 1 year, but may be extended.

Novelty lighters were banned because of the greater likelihood that children would be attracted to and play with them. Prior to the ban, EU estimates for fire-related accidents caused by children playing with lighters were between 1,500 and 1,900 injuries and 34 to 40 fatalities.

Banned novelty lighters, including holders clearly intended to hold a lighter, are those resembling an object that is appealing to or intended for children under 51 months of age or have entertaining audio or animated effects. This definition is based on clause 3.2 of EN 13869:2002. Examples of novelty lighters are those which:

- Resemble:
  - Seasonal and cartoon characters (e.g. Santa Claus, Halloween witches etc)
  - Toys
  - Guns
  - Animals
  - Food or drink
  - Watches
  - Telephones
  - Electronic equipment
  - Musical instruments
  - Vehicles or parts of vehicles
  - Human body or parts of the human body
  - Buildings
  - Tools
  - Furniture
  - Household appliances
  - Sports equipment
- Play musical notes
- Have flashing lights
- Include moving objects
- Have other entertaining features or attachments

To be allowed onto the EU market other lighters shall comply with the following requirements:

- EN ISO 9994 Lighters – Safety specification
- EN 13869– Lighters–Child-resistance for lighters – Safety requirements and test methods

As this ban is aimed at cheap, disposable lighters there is an exemption for higher quality lighters that are expected to be less accessible to children, if they meet certain criteria:

- Refillable
- Accompanied by a written guarantee of at least two years
- Expected lifetime of at least 5 years
- Parts can be repaired or replaced at a service centre in the EU

The EU has issued two guidance documents as Joint Market Surveillance Action on Child-resistant Lighters and Novelty Lighters Inventories, showing some examples of novelty and non-novelty lighters. Please note, these documents are not legally binding, such that national enforcement authorities may disagree, but in any case only the courts can ultimately decide.

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1 Joint Market Surveillance Action on Child-resistant Lighters and Novelty Lighters Inventories can be downloaded as follows:

EU Proposes Tighter Limits for Organic Tin Compounds

EU Directive 2002/62/EC already restricts the marketing and use of organic tin compounds (also known as “organotin” and “organostannic” compounds) as biocides in anti-fouling paints for ships and boats in the EU.

However, organotin compounds have many...
other uses, including stabilisers and catalysts for PVC coatings, and it is still permissible to import articles treated with these biocides into the EU. Because of their known effects as endocrine disruptors, the EU is proposing to reduce the overall risk to human health by restricting the use of these compounds in a wide range of consumer goods.

Specifically, the proposal is that
1. from 1 July 2010, tri-substituted compounds, such as tributyl tin (TBT) and triphenyl tin (TPT) cannot be used in any article at more than 0.1% by weight of tin
2. from 1 January 2012, dibutyl tin (DBT) compounds cannot be used in any article at more than 0.1% by weight tin
3. from 1 January 2012, dioctyl tin (DOT) compounds cannot be used at more than 0.1% by weight of tin in the following consumer articles
   • textile articles intended to come in contact with the skin,
   • gloves,
   • footwear or part of footwear intended to come into contact with the skin,
   • wall and floor coverings,
   • childcare articles,
   • female hygiene products,
   • nappies,
You can see the complete proposed document at [http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/tbt/eec/09_0159_00_e.pdf](http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2009/tbt/eec/09_0159_00_e.pdf)

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**Toy Business Updates in Australia**

Australian government published new requirements on lead and certain elements in children’s toys on 2 February 2009. The new requirements will replace the current Trade Practices Act ban on lead in toys which was implemented in 2007 owning to the large numbers of toys recall case because of the excessive lead content. However, the current Customs Regulations about **Prohibited Products** on migrateable lead and certain other elements in imported toys or playthings, money boxes, pencils and paint brushes, erasers resembling food in scent and appearance will remain in effect.

**Highlight of the requirements - On and after 1 January 2010:**

- Finger paints for children shall comply with clause 4.4 of Australian Standard AS 8124.7-2003, Safety of toys Part 7 - Finger paints. (equivalent to EN71-7)
- Other toys for children shall comply with Australian / New Zealand Standard AS/NZS ISO 8124.3:2003, Safety of toys Part 3 - Migration of certain elements with variations. (equivalent to EN71-3)

**The definition of Children’s Toys**

Children’s toys are defined as products that designed or clearly intended for use in play by children except sporting goods, camping goods, bicycles, home and public playground equipment, trampolines, electronic game units, models powered by combustion or steam engines and fashion jewelry for children.

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**Amendment of AS/NZS ISO 8124.1 - Hazardous Magnet Requirement**

Given the ongoing problems with magnetic toys, and the potential for serious injury or even death, **AS/NZS ISO 8124.1 Safety of toys in Australia and New Zealand have been revised to address ingestion hazards of magnets associated with toys used by all age groups as an interim measure. It is expected that further requirements will be added in the future once testing procedures addressing specific normal**
use and reasonable foreseeable abuse for toys containing hazardous magnets are developed.

The Challenge:
A magnet which has a flux index greater than 50kG\(^2\)mm\(^2\) and which is in any of the following shapes and sizes is defined as a hazardous magnet:
1. A cylinder with a length of not more than 32mm and a diameter of not more than 11mm;
2. A disk with a diameter of not more than 26mm and a thickness of not more than 5mm;
3. A sphere with a diameter of not more than 22mm;
4. Any solid that will fit entirely within the volume or envelop of any of the above defined shapes.

For toys that contain loose as-received hazardous magnet or magnetic component, the packaging and instructions of toys shall display the following statement or with similar meaning:
“Warning! The product contains small magnet(s). Swallowed magnets can stick together across intestines causing serious infections and death. Seek immediate medical attention if magnet(s) are swallowed or inhaled.”

Toys shall not liberate a hazardous magnet or magnetic component after being tested for normal and reasonably foreseeable use and abuse test.

Exemption:
The requirements do not apply to the use of magnets in motors, relays, speakers, electrical components, and similar devices where the magnetic properties are not part of the play pattern of the toy.

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Updates in the Chinese Market

China State Council Announced Order of the Recycling and Disposal of Waste Electrical and Electronic Products

On 25 February 2009, Chinese premier Wen Jiabao signed a Decree to lay down the responsibilities of manufacturers, importers, retailers, after service providers and recycling firms, concerning waste electrical and electronic products.

Effective 1 January 2011, manufacturers and importers are required to comply with the related administrative measures on the control of pollution caused by electrical and electronic products. The products should be made from non-toxic or low-toxic materials. Hazardous materials content and recycling marks should be indicated on the products and/or in the user manuals. A penalty of RMB 50,000 will be incurred to manufacturers and importers for the absence of the required information.

India Eases Ban on Chinese Toys
On 2 March 2009, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of India has eased the ban on import of Chinese toys that are certified by global safety standards. According to the public notice, the import of toys from China will be allowed if:
- A certificate demonstrating that the toy being imported conforms to the standards prescribed in ASTM F963 or ISO 8124 (Parts I-III) or IS 9873 [Parts I-III] is present;
- A Certificate of Conformance is issued by the manufacturer demonstrating that representative samples of the toy being imported have been tested by an independent ILAC-accredited laboratory.

Intertek is a renowned non-governmental independent third-party laboratory, and has obtained multiple international accreditations from members of ILAC (International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation), including CNAS, HKAS and UKAS. 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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Intertek Acquires Porst & Partner GmbH (Germany) to Expand Chemical, Textile and Toy Testing Services in Europe

On 8 January 2009, Intertek announced its acquisition of Porst & Partner GmbH, located in Fürth near Nürnberg in Bavaria, Germany.

Porst & Partner is a highly recognised laboratory providing consumer product testing, environmental analyses, food analyses and microbiology. Porst & Partner is also a well-known provider of engineering services including evaluation and renovation of abandoned and contaminated industrial sites. Intertek has been in close and successful collaboration on various business projects with Porst & Partner since 2005.

Porst & Partner’s services include chemical analyses of a variety of consumer goods including leather, textiles, metallic accessories, toys and wooden items, physical testing of textiles, toys and hard goods, RoHS compliance and REACH related services. With more than 2000 samples tested per month, Porst & Partner is considered one of the most efficient laboratories for leather and textile testing in Europe.

Clients of Porst & Partner include global brands, manufacturers, sourcing clients and retailers. In addition to testing to legal requirements, Porst & Partner can also provide quality and safety testing according to customized, internal requirements stipulated by each client. Porst & Partner holds accreditations from DACH according to DIN EN ISO/IEC 17025 to carry out testing in the fields of chemistry, biology, applied technology and electrical engineering, from BAM as approved lab for sampling and chemical analytics at exploration and assessment of contaminated sites, from AQS Bayern as approved examination center according to § 18 Bundesbodenschutzgesetz, from LGL Bayern as drinking water analysis center, from AQS Baden-Württemberg as audited laboratory for water and ground analytics and sampling, from AKS according to DIN EN ISO/IEC 17025 in the fields of food and microbiology and from CPSC for Lead paint (16 CFR Part 1303).

Bernard Leroy, President of Intertek Consumer Goods EMEA (Europe, Middle East, and Africa), explains, “Intertek is pleased to acquire the highly regarded expertise and competence of Porst & Partner to the Intertek global network. We see a rising demand for the services offered by Porst & Partner for both local and global clients especially in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The technical proficiency of Porst & Partner will optimize and complement our existing services in central Europe.”

Kay Grönhardt, Managing Director of Porst & Partner, adds, “Porst & Partner is enthusiastic about joining the Intertek team. The international network, global solutions and comprehensive range of services Intertek provides will offer us totally new opportunities in the future. With the combination of our specialised services and Intertek’s reputable expertise in auditing, legal consultancy, inspection and certification, we are able to provide a complete, one-stop-shop solution for international companies.”

About Porst & Partner GmbH
Porst & Partner GmbH (P&P) is a leading laboratory in environmental analytics, consumer product testing and engineering, serving clients from different industries across Germany and the world. More than 25 years of experience, the technical expertise and competency, the customer driven service orientation and the permanent optimization of methods and workflows has created Porst & Partner’s excellent reputation, not only in the German speaking market. Porst & Partner employs 50 people - chemists, physicists, biologists, geologists, engineers and
technicians, 3 of them are public appointed and sworn experts.

For more information of (P&P), visit www.porstundpartner.de

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Intertek Expands with the Acquisition of EKO-LAB Laboratory (Poland) and Provides Extended Range of Food Services in Eastern Europe

Intertek announced its acquisition of EKO-LAB SP. z.o.o (EKO-LAB). EKO-LAB is a highly recognized testing laboratory that provides microbiological and chemical analysis services to the food, industry. It is the first private accredited laboratory in Poland, with an accreditation certificate no 381 issued by the Polish Center of Accreditation.

Intertek EKO-LAB helps food-producers and food-retailers to assess the levels of chemicals, pathogens, bacteria and other micro-organisms in food products. The lab measures hygiene levels in food production lines, and calculates protein, fat and carbohydrate components of food and raw products. The laboratory also provides pharmaceutical and cosmetics analysis and is part of a larger Intertek laboratory network in Europe for the pharmaceutical and cosmetics industries.

Laboratory Testing Services Provided by EKO-LAB in Poland includes:

- Detection of pathogenic micro-organisms in food, water and cosmetics
- Hygienic monitoring of production lines
- Storage tests for food stuffs
- Minced meat and products testing not subjected to heat treatment
- Fast test analyses of food stuffs and fodders (Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays ELISA, allergens, mycotoxines, histamine and antibiotics)
- Storage and comparative tests
- Physical chemistry tests including:
  - Qualitative analysis of raw materials and products (protein, fat, carbohydrates, water, salt)
  - Determining goodness of food stuffs
  - Detection of harmful substances - nitrates, nitrites, phosphates and residues of heavy metals in food stuffs
- Qualitative analysis of household chemistry goods and cosmetics
- Determination of physical chemistry parameters of potable water

Demand for expert food testing in Eastern Europe is increasing due to growth in food processing, manufacturing and production in Poland, Ukraine and Russia. In addition, EU regulation of food quality and safety continues to increase in response to food-related health crises and consumer concerns. EKO-LAB’s customers include food retailers, meat and confectionary companies.

Dr. Jochen Zoller, President of Intertek’s food services, said: “Intertek is pleased to acquire the expertise of EKO-LAB which expands our scope of services in the growing markets of Eastern Europe. EKO-LAB will complement and enhance our existing global food service offerings.”

Wanda Ewers, General Manager of EKO-LAB, stated: “EKO-LAB is thrilled to join the Intertek team and add to the international network, global solutions and the comprehensive range of services the Group offers in food and non-food streams. With the combination of our specialized services in Europe and Intertek’s expertise in audit, legal consultancy, inspection and certification, we are able to provide a complete package.”

Intertek has an expanding international network of expert food-dedicated facilities. Providing auditing and testing services in over 60 countries, Intertek supports the entire food industry and partners with clients through every step to their business process to enable their overall success in the market place.

For more information please visit: www.eko-lab.pl
AAFA Announces Intertek as New Footwear Technology Services Partner

9 November 2008, the American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA) announced Intertek, a leading international provider of quality and safety solutions, as its new footwear technology services partner. As the AAFA preferred service provider, Intertek will offer testing, as well as other innovative services for all AAFA footwear member brands at special prices.

“AAFA’s new partnership came as a direct result of a member-driven initiative to establish a comprehensive technical solutions program that would be available to all AAFA-member footwear brands and their suppliers worldwide, not just AAFA footwear company members,” explained Kevin M. Burke, president and chief executive officer, AAFA. “Our alignment with Intertek will meet the needs of our membership, with technical expertise available in the United States and worldwide.” Intertek has a network of more than 1,000 laboratories and offices with over 23,000 people in more than countries around the world.

Intertek will provide all AAFA-member footwear brands and their suppliers with a minimum 20 percent discount on its industry leading, technical testing services. Beyond this savings program, AAFA and Intertek will collaborate on special events and other innovative programs to benefit members, including conducting an Intertek & AAFA US Annual Road Show, serving as a technical expert resource for AAFA members, providing timely articles on the latest technical issues for AAFA publications, and more.

Gene Rider, President of Intertek Consumer Goods North America, explains, “Intertek is honored to leverage our value-added solutions to AAFA members in order to not only enhance their products, processes, and brands but also enable members to dedicate their primary energies to their core business activities.”

About AAFA
The American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA) is the national trade association representing apparel, footwear and other sewn products companies, and their suppliers, which compete in the global market. AAFA’s mission is to promote and enhance its members’ competitiveness, productivity and profitability in the global market by minimizing regulatory, commercial, political, and trade restraints.

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Global Security Verification Program - Introduces New Solutions for Enhanced Supply Chain Security

New York, NY – 20 April 2009 – Industry leaders have been the driving forces in the development of new Global Security Verification Program solutions (GSV) for enhanced supply chain security. Their efforts on behalf of GSV have been part of ongoing work with stakeholders to find smarter methods for managing and reducing supply chain security risk. The new solutions, complementing existing components of GSV, include a security self-assessment tool and e-learning services for foreign manufacturers and suppliers. These solutions together will significantly improve supplier understanding of international supply chain security requirements and enable review of their readiness to manage and monitor their security policies in compliance with these requirements.

GSV is an industry platform enabled by Intertek
that supports importers and their suppliers’ efforts to verify security and improve supply chain efficiency worldwide. GSV is the result of a collaborative effort among industry thought leaders and decision makers concerned with ensuring that supply chains operate efficiently while complying with C-TPAT, AEO (European) and PIP (Canadian) supply chain security requirements.

The internationally renowned GSV program provides global importers and their suppliers with the means to implement a single, industry-wide supply chain security verification process, resulting in competitive advantages such as greater assurance, risk control, efficiency and cost savings. GSV participants can leverage the program’s consolidated industry data accumulated to date from close to 7,000 global verifications conducted in over 60-plus countries – all with the goal of better understanding and managing supply chain security issues, trends and good practices.

Join GSV today. Please visit www.importsecurity.com to achieve a more secure and efficient global supply chain.

About Intertek Sustainability Solutions (ISS)

Intertek Sustainability Solutions works with businesses to seamlessly integrate CSR and Sustainability with their brand and operations. We are proficient in delivering solutions dealing with immediate environmental and social concerns, but our ultimate value for clients has proved to be our ability to develop a portfolio of initiatives (such as stakeholder engagement programs and ethical supply chain management tools) that align social and environmental performance with business imperatives for maximum Return on Sustainability Investment (RSI).

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Germany GFA and Intertek Corporate on FSC Certification Project
— FSC CoC Certification Seminar Successfully Held in Shenzhen, China

The maintaining of the forest operations have become a serious concern of the world. With requests increasing from consumers worldwide for protection of forest resources, suppliers need to improve the quality of timber, paper and other wood products to ensure that all materials come from well maintained forests and do no harm to the environment.

Forest certification is a mechanism to enhance sustainable market operations of the forest. Nowadays, more and more consumers are requesting all wood product suppliers to obtain forest certification. Many countries have clearly indicated that only the wood products which have forest certification will be allowed into their markets, FSC certification has now become the most powerful forest certification system in the world.

Germany’s GFA Consulting Group (authorized by FSC to perform Forest Management Certification and Chain of Custody certification worldwide) and Intertek entered into a strategic partnership to join efforts in providing FSC CoC certification system services. The partnership will help to promote the FSC Chain of Custody Certification System in China and even worldwide.

As part of the efforts, both parties have held a
Development seminar on FSC Chain of Custody Certification System (CoC) in Shenzhen, China. On 16 January 2009, experts targeted topics from over 100 representatives resulting in positive recognition.

During the seminar, GFA Asia Representative Ms. Wang Guiqin, and Mr. Xiao Wenxiang from Intertek delivered speeches. Both presented in-depth analysis on the sustainable operations of the forest, the necessity and application process of FSC certification and CoC certification, and answered questions raised by the participants.

This seminar provided more information about the FSC Chain of Custody Certification System and sustainable development of the forest industry, and enhanced communication within the industry to enhance our FSC certification service.

About GFA Consulting Group – Your partner in forestry certification
Germany GFA Consulting Group was founded in 1982, headquartered in Hamburg, Germany. It has offered technical consulting services in development and cooperation for more than 130 countries.

GFA Consulting Group was authorized by International Forestry Stewardship Committee (FSC) in the year 2000 to provide forestry management certification and Custody of Chain (CoC) certification all over the world. Up to now GFA has issued FSC certificates for 500 companies in 46 countries and areas, including China, Russia, central Europe and South America.

GFA Consulting Group has an auditor team who are well trained in professional audit knowledge and skills, and can offer fast and effective certification services with their rich experience in international and domestic auditing. GFA enjoys a good international reputation and renders cost effective solutions to meet customers’ needs.

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Intertek Partners with HKTDC to Offer Exclusive Verification Services

In early May 2009 – (Hong Kong, China) Intertek, a leading provider of quality and safety solutions serving a wide range of industries around the globe, has partnered with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) to offer innovative and exclusive verification services for manufacturers, suppliers and exporters advertising on the HKTDC website (www.hktdc.com).

HKTDC is the global marketing arm and public service hub for Hong Kong-based manufacturers, traders and service exporters. The HKTDC connects millions of international buyers and suppliers quickly and efficiently, offering different value-adding combinations of trade facilitating services across the globe to promote Hong Kong as a platform for doing business with China and Asia. HKTDC activities are especially geared to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) - the chief drivers of Hong Kong’s trade.

Intertek’s verification services (IVS), verify a range of certificates from HKTDC advertisers such as GSV, ETL and GS. Once the certificate in question is verified successfully, Intertek offers an Intertek verified seal to be placed directly next to the advertiser’s company name directly on the HKTDC website. As of today, there are more than 110 companies entitled to the Intertek verified seal. To learn more about this innovative new service offering and what companies have taken.
“Intertek’s partnership with HKTDC enhances Hong Kong suppliers’ credibility and attraction to buyers. Intertek’s verification program is precise, accurate, and enables global buyers to make brand-building decisions for the future success of their business.” Mr. Paul Yao, Group Executive Vice President stated.

Intertek’s major areas for verifications are Management, CSR, Product, Security and In-House Laboratory Management.

This strategic new service gives both buyers and suppliers superb advantages. For buyers, Intertek assures the quality of each supplier in question; saving time for the buyer in identifying the validity of each necessary certificate while simultaneously building the buyer’s confidence and overall assurance in sourcing new vendors and production parties. For suppliers, Intertek enhances their competitiveness in the global marketplace by identifying and differentiating themselves from the general population with the IVS seal; signifying their extra effort to ensure their certificates are up to date and accurate for the buyer’s benefit.

The Hangzhou Textile laboratory is currently equipped with state-of-the-art devices, offering chemical testing of banned azo dyes and phthalate plasticizers, with more items to be available for testing soon such as allergenic and carcinogenic dyestuffs, lead and extractable heavy metals. The expansion of Intertek Hangzhou laboratory with its additional product testing will benefit our customers by creating more innovative solutions.

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 wounded a business in Thailand will become tougher now because of the new law entitled the “Act on the appearance and quality. To help Chinese manufacturers and traders have a comprehensive view of their products’ quality and to find effective ways to improve them, Intertek Hangzhou has extended its laboratory to cover RSL and render better services to our customers.

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Liability for Damage from Unsafe Products” BE 2551(2008) or Product Liability Law (P/L Law). The Act came into effect on 20 February 2009, which imposes liability for unsafe products on manufacturers, sellers, importers, and others in the supply chain which will improve consumer protection. This significant change for businesses operating in Thailand may lead to an increase in product liability claims and product recalls to a wide range of industries.

Under the P/L Law, it will now make it more convenient for consumers to sue if they suffer loss or damages as a result of using an unsafe product. Furthermore, business operators are liable for loss or damages caused from unsafe products, where as the product has already been sold to consumers, regardless of whether the loss or damages was caused intentionally or negligently.

Now, every person in the supply chain has to monitor their own area such as design, manufacturing processes, quality control, storage procedures, warnings, instructions and labels.

Three expert speakers who were willing to share very useful information, case studies as well as their opinions on how to minimize risks from product liability started with;

• Mr. Pitak Supanantakarn; General Manager – Intertek (Thailand), presented his ideas and knowledge of the New Paradigm for Product Liability Management in the Internal Trade Chain
• Ms. Saranya Karasin; Specialist Lawyer – Consumer Protection Board Officer, presented her knowledge of the Product Liability Law as well as case studies of consumer suits on the topic of “The Direction for Consumer Protection in 21st Century”
• Mr. Permsak Natenuj; Managing Director – Health Benefit Consultants Co., Ltd., shared his experience in insurance business and its application to product liability on the topic of “Unsafe Product – Insurance is the Exit, isn’t it?”

There were near 100 participants from various toys, furniture, electrical & electronic products, automotive, food and personal care products industries. In a Q & A session, they were eager to find out possible ways to minimize risk in order to prevent future legal claims and protect their brand reputation.

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Aerospace Management (AS9100):
Potential Areas for Certification Business in Thailand

As safety issues are becoming essential aspects in the aerospace industry, many manufacturers in the supply chain will now face a myriad of challenges when they deliver parts or materials to their buyers.
In response to the quality management system standard, the International Aerospace Quality Group (IAQG) developed the AS9100 which becomes the globally harmonized aerospace industry’s standard for quality assurance in design, development, production, installation and servicing. IAQG is comprised of Major Aerospace Original Equipment Manufacturers worldwide.

AS9100 will incorporate all the elements of ISO 9001, plus additional elements unique to the aerospace industry. More than 60 percent of IAQG members have implemented the AS9100 standard internally and are handing it down to their suppliers. Major aerospace manufacturers including Airbus & Boeing had already implemented AS9100 & endorsed AS9100.

Intertek (Thailand) sees the opportunity in this market because AS9100 can be applied to a wide range of industries that require safety as a key consideration in doing business. This standard will help manufacturers upgrade their products to meet international standards and buyer’s requirements. In response Intertek (Thailand) arranged a free half day seminar to target groups of various products such as electrical and electronic, raw materials, stickers and film, etc. from well known companies i.e. 3M, Benchmarks Electronics, Tyco Electronics, Suzuki Kanshi, Connell Bros, etc.

Four expert speakers shared their knowledge and experience to the audience, starting with Mr. Pitak Supananatkarn; General Manager - Intertek Thailand, Mr. Jeffrey Ho; Asia Pacific Aerospace Program Manager - Intertek System Certification, Mr. Narit Lerkmuang; Standard Specialist - Thai Industrial Standards Institute and Mr. Kittisak Ngoengokngam; EMI R&D Manager - Delta Electronics (Thailand).

The seminar was a gateway for Intertek Thailand to market the AS9100 certification in Thailand, providing the next step to launch training of AS9100 for a fee in the near future.

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IHIA Global Halal Certification Program Roll Out

After three years of intense lobbying, Intertek held the IHIA Global Halal Certification Program Roll Out. The roll out took place in Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 11-12 March 2009 hosted by Intertek and IHIA (International Halal Integrity Alliance). Over 45 Intertek employees participated from 18 countries including, Bangladesh, Brazil (represents Latin America), Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates (represents Middle East), United Kingdom, United States of America (represents North America) and Vietnam. The roll out was also attended by KasehDia, an essential Halal partner of Intertek as well as Halal scholars.
from Malaysia who attended as Intertek’s Halal partnered consultants.

The event opened with comments from Paul Yao, the CEO of Intertek Consumer Goods, where excitement was conveyed on the launch of Global Halal Certification as Intertek’s latest innovative service. The launch of the program comes at a time where the demand for Halal certified product worldwide is steadily increasing.

Darhim Hashim, the CEO of IHIA stated, “Our job does not stop here. Instead the real hard work is only about to begin.” He went on to express IHIA intentions to maintain the IHIA and Intertek partnership, pledging continuous support of the validity and integrity of their Global Halal System Certification.

The first day of roll out was covered of in depth socialization of Global Halal Certification. Pitak Supanantakarn, Food Services Director for Asia Pacific and Country Manager of Intertek Consumer Goods Thailand, shared some business updates including the approval of Intertek Philippines’ laboratory as a testing partner by OMA (the Office of Muslim Affairs). Pitak stated, “Halal is not product claim, but process claim.” In order to achieve the key factors for success, Pitak seeks commitment and support from Senior Management and Country Heads among Intertek Group.

IHIA Lead Halal auditor Dino Khalid and Sandy Bucao, a member of Intertek Halal technical team and Country Manager of Intertek Consumer Goods Philippines conducted training for potential Intertek Halal auditors at the event. What distinguishes Global Halal Certification checklist from any other Halal audit checklist is that it is not only based on Codex General Principles of Food Hygiene and HACCP, but also integrates social responsibility and environment protection, apart from Halal fundamental requirements. In addition, one-on-one consultation was also provided to Regional Business Directors and Country Managers by Intertek Halal team members and Darhim himself, which tailored to each country’s specific needs.

The Global Halal Certification Program Roll Out has produced high hopes and optimism among the participants understanding there are immense opportunities for Global Halal Certification. Michael Ong, Intertek Halal Team Leader and Regional Director of Intertek South and Middle Asia, ended his closing speech by asking all the participants and all fellow colleagues within Intertek to actively contribute to the business success of Global Halal Certification. Moving forward, to enhance the validity of Global Halal Certification, Intertek and IHIA will work closely on multi-lateral platforms, such as the OIC (Organization of Islamic Conference) and World Halal Forum to seek endorsements by various governments, such as those from ASEAN countries and Muslim Authorities. The Global Halal Certification Program is ready to be marketed worldwide as the first certification program of its kind.

Profile of IHIA
International Halal Integrity Alliance (IHIA)
IHIA is a non-profit, non-government body set up to uphold the integrity of Halal in the global market through collaboration, recognition and membership. IHIA has formed a strategic partnership with the Islamic Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI). Together with the ICCI, the organization has obtained the mandate from the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) to develop a global Halal agenda for the OIC.
Application of LEAN Tools to Help Enterprises Combat Financial Tsunami

Since the outburst of the Financial Tsunami at the end of 2008, many enterprises have been impacted deeply by economic downturn, especially those located in the Pearl River Delta (PRD) area. With shrinking orders and rising production costs, a survey conducted by the Federation of Hong Kong Industries (FHKI) estimated that around 15% of manufacturing factories in the PRD area have been or will be closed down. Facing these challenges, how can enterprises survive in the economic winter? The answer is, first, to go back to basics – REDUCE WASTE.

Someone asked Mr. Taiichi Ohno, the father of Toyota Production System, about the key factors of creating such a successful production system. Mr. Ohno’s reply was simple, “You just have to eliminate the Muda (which means “waste” in Japanese) in your system!” This concept forms the basics of LEAN manufacturing. Below is a list of common LEAN Tools that are widely adopted in various industries.

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<th>Common LEAN Tools</th>
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<td>• KANBAN</td>
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<td>• Total Productive Maintenance</td>
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<td>• SMED</td>
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<td>• Visual Management</td>
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<td>• SS</td>
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<td>• Multi-Tasking Staff</td>
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<td>• Work Flow Balancing</td>
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<td>• Supply Chain Management</td>
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<td>• Poka Yoke</td>
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<td>• “Push” to “Pull” Work Mode</td>
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<tr>
<td>• U-Line</td>
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<td>• Flexible Operational Planning</td>
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In this issue, we will focus on the first two tools. KANBAN means “signboards” in Japanese, and is a signaling system to trigger action. Toyota is a pioneer in adopting KANBAN where the production lines keep minimal inventory, but parts seldom run short.

SMED stands for Single Minute Exchange of Die. The phrase “single minute” does not mean changeovers or startups should take only one minute, but that it should take minimal time. By developing special tools for the die-changing process, Toyota engineers are able to cut the changeover to less than 10 minutes per die – thus reducing the economic lot size to ONE vehicle.

In a marketplace full of uncertainties, enterprises should focus and work on controllable factors like the reduction of waste in their production systems. LEAN tools have been proven to be effective means to reduce waste. In the next issue, we will introduce more LEAN tools and show you how they can help all enterprises survive in this financial tsunami.

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Intertek and California DTSC Set Agenda for Greener Electronics

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and Intertek, the leading international provider of quality and safety services, held a symposium between industry, regulators, and enforcement agencies to demonstrate best health and environmental compliance practices regarding regulated hazardous materials in consumer electronics and the ‘greening’ of products and supply chains into the future.

The symposium, entitled “The Greening of Electronics in a Global Economy,” was held on 19 February 2009 at the California Environmental Protection Agency’s headquarters in Sacramento. It addressed the need and opportunities for reducing hazardous substances in consumer electronics, current US and international best practices in health and environmental compliance practices, measures open to electronics manufacturers for ensuring compliance, and global prospects and trends in ‘greener’ electronics supply chains and new regulation.

California is one of the leading international jurisdictions in the regulation and enforcement of harmful substances in consumer electronic products. A number of international jurisdictions and governments have hazardous substances laws in place, including the EU, China, Japan, Canada and Australia, and delegates from agencies in these countries were invited to the forum. As regulatory terms and enforcement in each jurisdiction varies, the symposium allowed industry and regulators to discuss together the challenges in ensuring compliance with varying laws and standards across global manufacturing and supply-chains. California is the first U.S. state to actively promote legislation in this area and the symposium, is the first of its kind in North America.

The symposium was also be attended by some of the world’s leading electrical manufacturers. Brian Krzanich, Vice President and General Manager of Manufacturing and Supply Chain at Intel Corporation, delivered the symposium’s key note speech. Speakers include Judy Glazer, Director of Global Operations Social and Environmental Responsibility at Hewlett Packard, Tim McGrady, Environmental Manager at LG Electronics, Mr. Henrick Hagen Olesen of the Danish EPA, Göran Gabling of KEMI the Swedish Chemicals Agency, and a speaker from the China MII.

Claudia Polsky, Deputy Director of the Office of Pollution Prevention and Green Technology at DTSC, said: “Integral to California’s Green Chemistry Initiative is the identification of product manufacturers that have robust environmental compliances systems, and those that are going beyond compliance to find ways to eliminate harmful, as-yet-unregulated chemicals in their products. This symposium will be an opportunity to share best practices with some of the leading electrical manufacturers in the world, and to identify opportunities for global cooperation among government agencies with responsibility over toxics in electronics.”

Joel Pekay, Global Marketing and Business Development Director of Intertek’s Health and Environmental Services, said: “Hazardous waste generated from electrical products is a global concern and we are proud to be facilitating communication between industry and environmental enforcement agencies. There is huge benefit to businesses in understanding and cost-effectively addressing global legislation in their operations and this first symposium is a step towards leading and sharing that best practice in the U.S.”

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Intertek Exhibits at the Hong Kong Toys & Games Fair

The 35th annual Hong Kong Toys & Games Fair was held on 5-8 January 2009 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center. The fair is the largest of its kind in Asia, and the second largest in the world. It attracted over 2,000 exhibitors from all corners of the world and for the first time, the organizers of the two largest toy trade events in the world - HKTDC and Spielwarenmesse eG - have joined forces to boost international participation in the Hong Kong Toys & Games Fair by organizing the “World of Toys Pavilion”.

Of the broad array of exhibitors, Intertek successfully drew attention gaining maximum exposure. Mr. Philip Bullock, our technical manager from Intertek UK, was honored to be invited as one of the guest speakers at the “Hong Kong Toys Industry Conference 2009”.

At the booth, attendee interests were peeked with presentations of scheduled free CPSIA seminars. Other highlights included, our Intertek colleagues communicating their vast knowledge regarding topics ranging from global toy safety, to risk management and brand development.

All in all, despite the economic downturn, the Hong Kong Toys & Games Fair resulted in tremendous interest generating numerous leads for future business.

Intertek Exhibits the Toy Fair at ExCel, London

Intertek was proud to take part in the January 2009 Toy Fair held at ExCel, London. Robert Hinchcliffe, Business Manager for Toys and Hardlines, was on hand to discuss Intertek’s services with exhibitors and visitors during the four day event. Other Intertek colleagues participated, including Stephen Lim, Account Manager for Toys, Food, and Hardlines Division from Intertek Hong Kong.

Stefanie Siverly, Business Development Manager for the UK, participated in the “Women in Toys” initiative which was launched at the exhibition. Key topics discussed during the Toy Fair included the impact of the CPSIA Regulations and the anticipated impact the newly revised EU Toys Safety Directive will have on the toy industry.

The British Toy and Hobby Association (BTHA) who organized the Toy Fair hosted the seminar, “Compiling a Technical File under the EU Toy Directive” which was attended by Philip Bullock, Technical Manager – Toys & Hardlines.

Intertek Exhibits at the Hong Kong Fashion Week

Intertek exhibited at the Hong Kong Fashion Week for Fall/Winter held on 12 - 15 January 2009.

Intertek was one of 1,400 exhibitors to partake in this event. Intertek experts informed attendees of innovative testing solutions available and provided updated information on other relevant topics.

The exhibition was viewed as a successful event for Intertek and other participants.
# Seminars / Training Programs (May - Aug 2009)

## China - Guang Zhou

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seminars / Training Programs</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Enquiry</th>
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<tr>
<td>BRC Global Standard Internal Auditor Training -- Consumer Products</td>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>GZ Office</td>
<td>RMB 2500</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.zou@intertek.com">nancy.zou@intertek.com</a></td>
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<td>Supplier Quality Audit Skills</td>
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<td>Textile Principle Training</td>
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<td>Quality Audit Check Points for Production and Inspection of Electrical Products</td>
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<td>Training on Cord Safety Testing Standard</td>
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<td>Anti-bacterial/Anti-mold Knowledge and Tests</td>
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## China - Hong Kong

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<td>Safety Aspects of Children's Clothing Seminar</td>
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<td>Latest EU Standard and LED Technology in Lighting Industry</td>
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<td>HKSP</td>
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<td>Sweater Finishing (Course I) - Elementary</td>
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<td>EuP Directive Full Day Workshop</td>
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<td>Functional Textile Testing</td>
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<td>9:30 am - 1:00 pm</td>
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<td>Sweater Finishing (Course III) - Advanced</td>
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<td>What are SVHCs in REACH?</td>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>9:45 am - 12:00 pm</td>
<td>HK Office</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td><a href="mailto:candy.lui@intertek.com">candy.lui@intertek.com</a></td>
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<td>(GB) China National Standard testing for Textile Apparel</td>
<td>Jun 5</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>HK Office</td>
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<td>1-Day REACH Training Workshop</td>
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<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
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<td>HK$1,000</td>
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<td>AATCC Colour Fastness and Physical Properties Training Workshop</td>
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<td>HK$3900</td>
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<td>Age Determination and Labelling Requirements for Toys</td>
<td>Jun 26</td>
<td>2:30 pm - 5:30 pm</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:candy.lui@intertek.com">candy.lui@intertek.com</a></td>
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<td>Quality Assurance Seminar for General Textile Testing</td>
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<td>9:30 am - 12:45 pm</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:iris.lai@intertek.com">iris.lai@intertek.com</a></td>
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<td>Beyond Recipes - Seminar on Cookware &amp; Tableware</td>
<td>Jul 17</td>
<td>2:45 pm - 5:00 PM</td>
<td>HK Office</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td><a href="mailto:candy.lui@intertek.com">candy.lui@intertek.com</a></td>
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<td>Functional Textiles - Fact or Fiction Seminar</td>
<td>Jul 20</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
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<td>HK$800</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ada.cheng@intertek.com">ada.cheng@intertek.com</a></td>
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<td>Product Safety Training Course</td>
<td>Jul 28 - 29</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>MPHKH</td>
<td>US$495 / HK$3,800</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fanny.chiu@intertek.com">fanny.chiu@intertek.com</a>, <a href="mailto:nichole.wang@intertek.com">nichole.wang@intertek.com</a></td>
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<td>Wearing Apparel to US and EU: Mandatory Test or Optional Test</td>
<td>Aug 3</td>
<td>9:30 am - 12:45 pm</td>
<td>HK Office</td>
<td>HK$300</td>
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<td>The Mystery of Wool</td>
<td>Aug 15</td>
<td>9:30 am - 12:45 pm</td>
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## China - Shen Zhen

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<tr>
<td>BRC Global Standard Internal Auditor Training -- Consumer Products</td>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>SZ Office</td>
<td>RMB 2500</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.zou@intertek.com">nancy.zou@intertek.com</a></td>
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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Fee</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REACH Requirements and Solution for Products Exported to EU</td>
<td>Aug 10-13</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>SZ Office</td>
<td>RMB 1500</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.zou@intertek.com">nancy.zou@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Juvenile Products Testing Training</td>
<td>Aug 11-12</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>SZ Office</td>
<td>RMB 3000</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.zou@intertek.com">nancy.zou@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Toy Safety Engineer Training - Elementary Course: U.S. Toy Safety Standard Introduction – Physical</td>
<td>Aug 17</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>SZ Office</td>
<td>RMB 1000</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.zou@intertek.com">nancy.zou@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>BRC Global Standard 3rd Party Auditor Training – Food Safety (Issue 5)</td>
<td>Aug 17-20</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>SZ Office</td>
<td>RMB 6000</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.zou@intertek.com">nancy.zou@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Toy Safety Engineer Training - Elementary Course: Europe Toy Safety Standard Introduction – Physical and Electrical</td>
<td>Aug 18</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>SZ Office</td>
<td>RMB 1000</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.zou@intertek.com">nancy.zou@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>GSV Internal Auditor Training</td>
<td>Aug 18-19</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>SZ Office</td>
<td>RMB 4000</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.zou@intertek.com">nancy.zou@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Toy Safety Engineer Training - Elementary Course: Europe and U.S. Toy Safety Standard Introduction -- Chemical</td>
<td>Aug 19</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>SZ Office</td>
<td>RMB 1000</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.zou@intertek.com">nancy.zou@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Inspector Training</td>
<td>Aug 24-25</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>SZ Office</td>
<td>RMB 2500</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.zou@intertek.com">nancy.zou@intertek.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Social Responsibility Internal Auditor Training</td>
<td>Aug 24-26</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>SZ Office</td>
<td>RMB 4500</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.zou@intertek.com">nancy.zou@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Progress Course: Senior Toy Safety Engineer</td>
<td>Aug 24-26</td>
<td>9:30 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>SZ Office</td>
<td>RMB 4500</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.zou@intertek.com">nancy.zou@intertek.com</a></td>
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### UK - Leicester

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<tr>
<td>Basic Elements of Fibres Yarns and Fabrics</td>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>10:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Leicester office</td>
<td>£165</td>
<td><a href="mailto:consumergoods.uk@intertek.com">consumergoods.uk@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Textiles for Nursery Products</td>
<td>Jun 3</td>
<td>10:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Leicester office</td>
<td>£165</td>
<td><a href="mailto:consumergoods.uk@intertek.com">consumergoods.uk@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Candle Testing &amp; Safety</td>
<td>Jun 10</td>
<td>10:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Leicester office</td>
<td>£165</td>
<td><a href="mailto:consumergoods.uk@intertek.com">consumergoods.uk@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Basics of Footwear Manufacturing &amp; Testing</td>
<td>Jun 17</td>
<td>10:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Leicester office</td>
<td>£165</td>
<td><a href="mailto:consumergoods.uk@intertek.com">consumergoods.uk@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Electrical Safety of Battery Operated Goods</td>
<td>Jun 24</td>
<td>10:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Leicester office</td>
<td>£165</td>
<td><a href="mailto:consumergoods.uk@intertek.com">consumergoods.uk@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Essentials of Textile Testing</td>
<td>Jul 1</td>
<td>10:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Leicester office</td>
<td>£165</td>
<td><a href="mailto:consumergoods.uk@intertek.com">consumergoods.uk@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Toy Safety, EN71 &amp; Related Standards</td>
<td>Jul 8</td>
<td>10:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Leicester office</td>
<td>£165</td>
<td><a href="mailto:consumergoods.uk@intertek.com">consumergoods.uk@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>General Product Safety Regulations</td>
<td>Jul 22</td>
<td>10:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Leicester office</td>
<td>£165</td>
<td><a href="mailto:consumergoods.uk@intertek.com">consumergoods.uk@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Overseas Legislation (half day)</td>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>10:00 am - 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Leigh office</td>
<td>£85</td>
<td><a href="mailto:consumergoods.uk@intertek.com">consumergoods.uk@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Flammability for Upholstery (half day)</td>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>10:00 am - 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Leigh office</td>
<td>£85</td>
<td><a href="mailto:consumergoods.uk@intertek.com">consumergoods.uk@intertek.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Safety Aspects of Children’s Clothing</td>
<td>Jun 25</td>
<td>10:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Leigh office</td>
<td>£165</td>
<td><a href="mailto:consumergoods.uk@intertek.com">consumergoods.uk@intertek.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A practical Guide to Dyeing &amp; Finishing</td>
<td>Jul 2</td>
<td>10:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Leigh office</td>
<td>£165</td>
<td><a href="mailto:consumergoods.uk@intertek.com">consumergoods.uk@intertek.com</a></td>
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- Tel: +86 755 26861668, Fax: +86 755 26020555

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