

SAFEGUARDS

SGS CONSUMER TESTING SERVICES

SOFTLINES

NO. 100/09 JUNE 2009

SAFETY OF CHILDREN'S SLEEP BAGS

In April 2009, BSI published a new standard specification BS 8510:2009 specifically aimed at the Child Care market. This standard attempts to specify the minimum performance requirements for articles intended as sleep bags (sleep sacs) for infants of 4kg or more.

The specification is not intended for articles of clothing such as sleep suits or baby gros or indeed for articles intended to keep babies warm when in a push chair or similar conveyance. Neither is it intended for sleeping bags for leisure activities such as camping.

A sleep bag is a full length fabric bag with a neck opening and armholes but without sleeves, hood or specific areas for feet and legs. It is intended to keep baby sufficiently warm when sleeping in a cot without the need for additional sheets or quilt or blanket.

The specification gives minimum performance requirements for:

- Chemical hazards
- Thermal hazards (insulation maxima)
- Entrapment, entanglement, choking, ingestion and suffocation hazards
- Structural integrity
- Flammability

The last point regarding flammability simply states that the article shall conform to EN 14878. It is presumed that for babies over 6 months this means "Class A" performance as defined in EN 14878 as this article is not pyjamas.



International Award Winning "Go Go Bag" designed by Merino Kids

Note: The UK DTI Guide to the Nightwear (Safety) Regulations specifically states that Garments doubling as sleeping bags and dressing gowns which can be worn by an infant beyond 3 months should be treated as children's dressing gowns. Indicating that such articles for sale in the UK must also be of Low Flammability when tested according to BS 5722.

To avoid problems in the UK it is therefore strongly advised that such garments meet the "Low Flammability" requirements of BS 5722.

FOR ENQUIRIES:

Global Competences Support Centre: gpsc@sgs.com
Rob Croskell Tel: +44 (0) 208 991 3410 or Rob.Croskell@sgs.com

Asia – Hong Kong. Tel: +852 2334 4481 Fax: +852 2144 7001 mktg.hk@sgs.com
Australasia _ Perth. Tel: +61 (0) 3 9790 3418 Fax: +61 (0) 3 9701 0988 au.cts@sgs.com
Europe – London —UK. Tel: +44(0) 20 8991 3410 Fax: +44 (0) 20 8991 3417 gb.cts.sales@sgs.com
Africa & Middle East – Turkey. Tel: +90 212 225 0024 Fax: +90 212 296 47 82 sgs.turkey@sgs.com
Americas – USA. Tel: +1 973 575 5252 Fax: +1 973 575 1193 Marketing.CTS.US@sgs.com

www.sgs.com Global Competences Support Centre: gpsc@sgs.com
If you wish to unsubscribe to this technical bulletin, go here: [Unsubscribe](#)

© 2009 SGS. All rights reserved. This is a publication of SGS, except for 3rd parties' contents submitted or licensed for use by SGS. SGS neither endorses nor disapproves said 3rd parties contents. This publication is intended to provide technical information and shall not be considered an exhaustive treatment of any subject treated. It is strictly educational and does not replace any legal requirements or applicable regulations. It is not intended to constitute consulting or professional advice. The information contained herein is provided "as is" and SGS does not warrant that it will be error-free or will meet any particular criteria of performance or quality. Do not quote or refer any information herein without SGS's prior written consent.

WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

SGS