

SAFEGUARDS

CONSUMER GOODS AND RETAIL

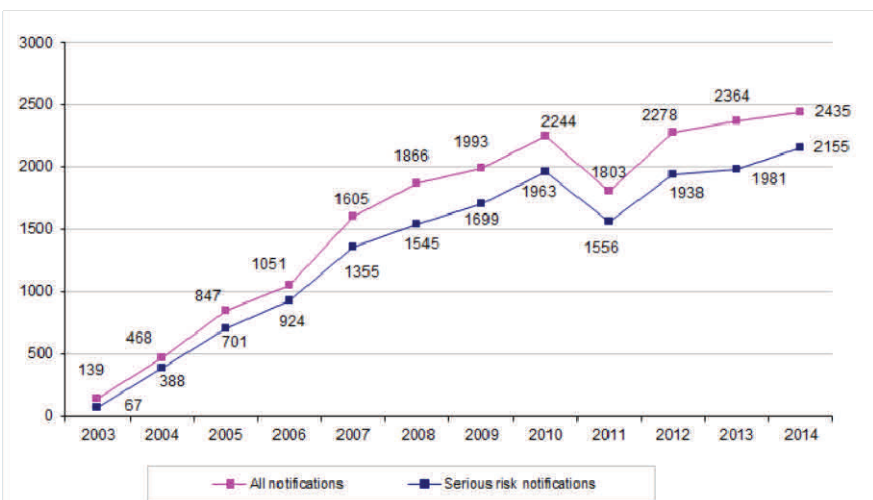
CONSUMER PRODUCTS

NO. 054/15 APRIL 2015

EU RAPEX STATISTICS 2014: INCREASING RECALLS ESPECIALLY ON TOYS AND CHEMICAL RISKS

RAPEX is the EU Commission rapid alert system for dangerous products recalled in the EU. In 2014 the number of recalled products has again increased to a total of 2435 recalls.

TABLE 1. TOTAL NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS 2003-2014



Source : [RAPEX report 2014](#) by the Directorate-General for Health and Consumers of the European Commission



TABLE 2. TOP 5 NOTIFIED PRODUCT CATEGORIES IN 2014 COMPARED TO 2013

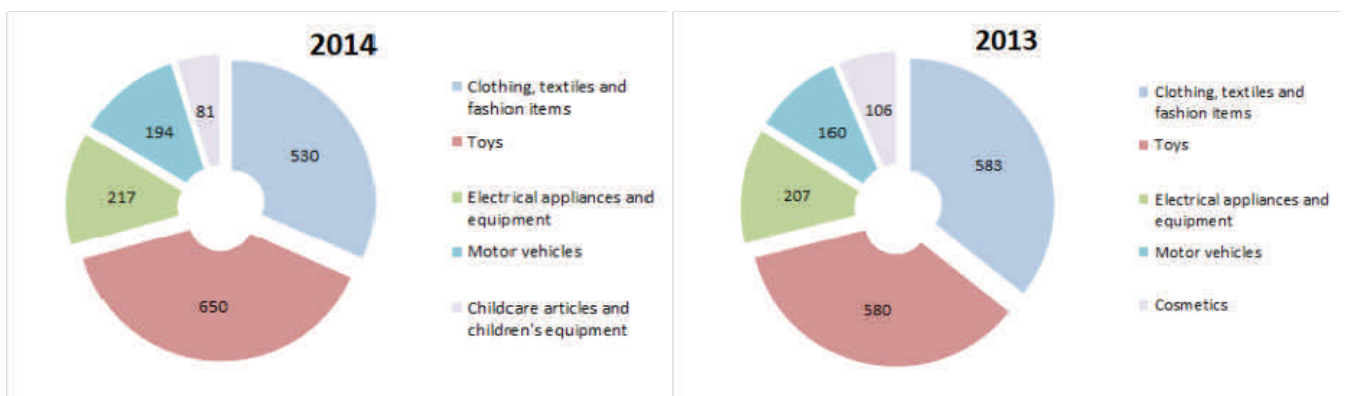
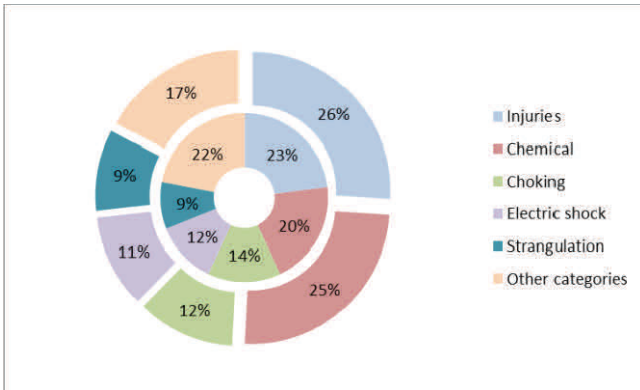


TABLE 3. TOP 5 NOTIFIED TYPES OF RISK 2013 COMPARED TO 2014



Source : [RAPEX report 2014](#) by the Directorate-General for Health and Consumers of the European Commission

The 2014 statistics show a significant rise in toy recalls, now toys are ranking as the product group with the highest number of recalls (see table 2). In table 3 the top 5 notified types of risk are shown. The main growth on types of risk can be seen for chemical risks. Chemical risks show a rise from 20% in 2013 to 25% in 2014. Chemical together with injury risks are now responsible for more than half of the recalls.

This may be due to an increased focus on chemicals by authorities as it is known that the RAPEX statistics show the results of enforcement activity and policies. Another reason may be that newer more stringent legal requirements are more difficult to comply with. For instance toys have new, more stringent requirements which came into force in July 2013. Controlling product risk requires great vigilance and appropriate controls on the supply chain. Robust safety management systems and the use of appropriate controls, including but not limited to appropriate testing programs, must underpin a company’s monitoring of manufactured product to ensure that such products meet regulatory requirements. Companies must consistently

reassess and challenge their existing policies and practices to ensure they are appropriate to manage their risk of expensive product recalls or possible detrimental effects to human health and safety.

To keep you informed on actual recalls, SGS publishes summaries of recalls in the European, US and the Australian markets. Products Recalls are included in the SGS SafeGuards email update twice per month.

Throughout our global network, SGS offers consultation and comprehensive testing services covering the full spectrum of international product safety and regulatory standards for a wide range of consumer products. To learn more about our services, please [visit our website](#).



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