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HARDGOODS

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CHINA – DRAFT GB REGULATION ON FOOD CONTACT GLASS AND CERAMIC

The National Health and Family Planning Commission of the People's Republic of China (NHFPC) released draft regulations for food contact glass and ceramic in February 2015. Now the public hearing period is over, the legislators are making the final revisions and will submit for approval in the near future.

The draft can be downloaded through the link [here](#).

Major modifications in ceramic regulation:

1. The new ceramic regulation will replace GB 13121-1991, GB 14147-1993, GB 8058-2003 and GB 12651-2003, as the only regulation for food contact ceramic.
2. Modified sensory (appearance) requirements.
3. The classification of ceramic articles are similar to GB 12651-2003 except:
 - The capacity of pitchers are specified as >3L.
 - The special ware is no longer differentiated.
4. Compared to GB 12651-2003, the unit for flatware has been changed from mg/L to mg/dm². As the corresponding test method, the general migration method for food contact materials, has not yet been published, it is speculated that a 6dm²:1L conventional migration ratio will be applied, which makes the new limits slightly lower than before.



THE LIMITS ARE LISTED IN TABLE 1: SPECIFICATIONS FOR FOOD CONTACT CERAMIC

	LIMITS					
	Flatware (mg/dm ²)	Pitchers (mg/L)	Large Hollowware (mg/L)	Small Hollowware (mg/L)	Cups/mugs (mg/L)	Cookware (mg/L)
Lead	0.8	0.5	1	2	0.5	3
Cadmium	0.07	0.25	0.25	0.3	0.25	0.3

Major modifications in glass regulation:

- Additional limits for cookware.
- Modified sensory (appearance) requirements.

THE LIMITS ARE LISTED IN TABLE 2: SPECIFICATIONS FOR FOOD CONTACT GLASS

	LIMITS				
	Flatware (mg/dm ²)	Pitchers (mg/L)	Large Hollowware (mg/L)	Small Hollowware (mg/L)	Cookware (mg/L)
Lead	0.8	0.5	0.75	1.5	0.5
Cadmium	0.07	0.25	0.25	0.5	0.05
Arsenic	0.07	0.15	0.2	0.2	-
Antimony	0.7	0.5	0.7	1.2	-

It seems labelling requirements will also be included in the future GB regulation for food contact materials.

- Pending changes are expected before the publication of official regulations.

SGS technical experts have extensive knowledge and testing experience in materials and articles in contact with food. They work to ensure that your products meet the appropriate regulations for food contact materials and pave the way for compliance. From overall migration test to expert advices on emerging regulations and compliance issues and documentation review, SGS is the partner to trust. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information or [visit our website](#).

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