

SAFE GUARDS

SGS CONSUMER TESTING SERVICES

SOFTLINES

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TURKEY RELEASES INFORMATION ON IMPORT AUDITS OF FOOTWEAR FOR PHTHALATES

On October 4, 2012, the Turkey Ministry of Economy released a communication on their official gazette with guidelines aimed to regulate the procedures and principles concerning audit of conformity of certain consumer products for the presence of Phthalates. The products that are affected by this requirement and could be subject to a random audit are listed below.

TABLE 1. LIST OF PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO IMPORT AUDITS

NAME OF MATERIAL	TEST REPORT
Footwear with rubber surface	Phthalates
Footwear with surface made of plastic material	Phthalates
Shoes in which surface of shoes is fastened to the sole by passing belts or thin stripes on the surface of shoes through the holes on the sole	Phthalates
Footwear having more than 3 cm heel height with the sole	Phthalates
Slipper and other shoes worn at home	Phthalates
Footwear having insole length less than 24 cm	Phthalates
Footwear that can't be determined to belong to men or women	Phthalates
Footwear for men, women, children and babies	Phthalates
Sneakers, tennis shoes, basketball shoes, gymnastic shoes, training shoes and so on	Phthalates



The product types listed above could be randomly audited and tested for the presence of Phthalates. Phthalates that will be checked are DEHP, DBP, BBP, DINP, DIDP and DNOP, and they must not be present in an amount more than 0.1%.

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Companies must have a test report from an accredited third party testing laboratory such as SGS in order to complete an import application. Copies approved by the test laboratory also are accepted. Test reports don't guarantee complete exemption from the actual audit; this is solely the discretion of the Ministry. Based on risk analysis of the product and of the importer, the Ministry can request that products be re-analyzed and held for testing.

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Reference:

<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2011/03/20110320-2.htm> (in Turkish)

<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2012/10/20121004-6.htm> (in Turkish)

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