

# SAFE GUARDS

SGS CONSUMER TESTING SERVICES

HARDLINES, SOFTLINES

NO. 065/11 MARCH 2011

## CALIFORNIA PROP 65: FIRST NATIONWIDE LEGALLY BINDING AGREEMENT FOR CADMIUM IN JEWELLERY

In February 2010, the Center for Environmental Health (CEH) initiated legal actions on cadmium in jewellery based on the California consumer right to know law (Proposition 65 or Prop 65)<sup>1</sup>. On March 22, 2011, a new Prop 65 settlement has been reached for cadmium in jewelry<sup>2</sup> which establishes the first legally binding agreement to limit cadmium in children's and adult's jewelry.

Under the terms of the settlement, each material or component is required to be reformulated to not more than 0.03% ( $\leq 300$  ppm) cadmium.

Highlights of the settlement (including material exemptions therein) are summarised in Table 1.

<sup>1</sup> [SafeGuards 032/10](#) and references therein

<sup>2</sup> First Nationwide Agreement Sets Strict Limits on Cadmium in Jewelry, Center for Environmental Health (CEH), March 21, 2011



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Substance	Scope of Jewelry	Requirement	Effective Date
Cadmium content	1. Ornaments worn by a person: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Anklet, arm cuff, bracelet, charm, brooch, chain, crown, cuff link, watch (excluding timepiece itself if removable), decorated hair accessory, earring, necklace, pin, ring</li> <li>b. Similar clothing or shoe ornaments which are detachable</li> <li>c. Body piercing jewelry</li> </ul> 2. Any bead, chain, link, pendent or other component of such an ornament	$\leq 0.03 \%$  (300 ppm)	<p><b>August 15, 2011</b></p> (inventory cutoff / Shipping restriction date)
	<p><b>Exemption</b></p> Cubic zirconia (cubic zirconium, CZ), glass, rhinestones or vitrified ceramics in jewellery for children over the age of 6.		<p><b>December 31, 2011</b></p> (final retail compliance date)

Table 1

SGS will follow up and keep you informed about developments on regulations or policies in consumer products as a complementary service.

Throughout our global network of laboratories, we are able to provide a range of services, including analytical testing and consultancy for cadmium, lead and other restricted substances in jewelry products for the Californian and International markets. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.



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