Vietnam Proposed Toy Safety Regulations

The Ministry of Science and Technology of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam proposed a new Technical Regulation on toys. The regulation specifies the quality properties related to safety, health of users; corresponding testing methods and basic requirements for quality management for domestic production, import and delivery of toys.

In 2008, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam published a draft ‘National Technical Regulation on Safety of Toys’ (QCVN:2008/BKHCN). The draft was prepared as a result of decision No. 24/2007/QD-BKHCN of September 28, 2007, promulgating the regulation on certification of standard conformity, certification of technical-regulation conformity, announcement of standard conformity and announcement of technical-regulation conformity. The regulation applies to organisations and individuals that manufacture, import, distribute and retail toys. Some of the technical requirements are essentially identical to ISO 8124 parts 1-3 as well as EN 71 parts 9-11. Highlights on the technical requirements and other requirements are summarised in the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRODUCT</th>
<th>PARAMETER</th>
<th>STANDARD</th>
<th>STANDARD EQUIVALENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toys²</td>
<td>Physical and Mechanical</td>
<td>TCVN 6238-1</td>
<td>ISO 8124-1 ‘Safety of Toys - Part 1: Safety Aspects Related to Mechanical and Physical Properties’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Flammability</td>
<td>TCVN 6238-2</td>
<td>ISO 8124-2 ‘Safety of Toys - Part 2: Flammability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical</td>
<td>TCVN 6238-3</td>
<td>ISO 8124-3</td>
<td>‘Safety of Toys - Part 3: Migration of Certain Elements’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

² Under this proposal toys are products used in play by children under 14 years old
Other requirements

- Marking
  - Toy markings shall be carried out according to the law for the labelling of goods
  - Toys must be accompanied by appropriate clear and legible warnings in order to reduce inherent in their use

Exemption

The following are not regarded as toys:

- Christmas decorations
- Detailed scale models for adult collectors
- Equipment intended to be used collectively in playgrounds
- Sports equipment
- Aquatic equipment intended to be used in deep water
- Folk dolls and decorative dolls and other similar articles for adult collectors
- “Professional” toys installed in public places (shopping centers, stations etc)
- Puzzles with more than 500 pieces or without picture, intended for specialists
- Air guns and air pistols
- Fireworks, including percussion caps
- Slings and catapults
- Sets of darts with metallic points
- Electric ovens, irons or other functional products operated at a nominal voltage exceeding 24 volts (> 24 V)
- Products containing heating elements intended for use under the supervision of an adult in a teaching context
- Vehicles with combustion engines
- Toys steam engines
- Bicycles designed for sport or travel on the public highway
- Video toys that can be connected to a video screen, operated at nominal voltage exceeding 24 volts (> 24 V)

SGS is committed to inform as development of this proposal occurs.

Throughout our global network of laboratories, we are able to provide a range of services, including analytical testing and consultancy for chemical and non-chemical parameters in a comprehensive range of toys and consumer products for worldwide markets. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.