

SAFEGUARDS

SGS CONSUMER TESTING SERVICES

TOYS & JUVENILE PRODUCTS

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EU COMMISSION PARTIALLY AGREES TO GERMANY'S STRICTER CHEMICAL LIMITS IN TOYS

The EU Commission partially agreed to Germany's application to certain stricter chemical limits in toys. These measures for barium and lead are approved until the date of entry into force of EU provisions setting new limits in toys or 21 July 2013, which ever comes first.

In January 2011, Germany requested permission to retain existing national provisions for five heavy metals: antimony, arsenic, barium, lead and mercury, as well as nitrosamines and nitrosatable substances released from toys beyond 21 July, 2013, the date of entry into force of chemicals under ANNEX II, Part III of The Toy Safety Directive.

On 20 March 2012, [Decision 2012/160/EC](#) was published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU). The Decision did not approve measures for antimony, arsenic and mercury but approved measures for barium, lead as well as nitrosamines and nitrosatable substances. The approved measures for barium and lead are approved until the date of entry into force of EU provisions setting new



limits or 21 July 2013, which ever comes first. The approved measures for nitrosamines and nitrosatables are approved. Highlights of the Decision are summarised in Table 1.

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TABLE 1.

SUBSTANCE (MIGRATION)	GERMAN REGULATION	SCOPE OF GERMAN REGULATION	GERMANY'S REQUEST	DECISION 2012/160/EU
Antimony (Sb)	Second Equipment and Product Safety Act Ordinance (Verordnung über die Sicherheit von Spielzeug — 2. GPSGV)	Toys	To retain existing provisions for the release of i-ii below from toy material beyond 21 July 2013 I. 5 heavy metals II. nitrosamines & nitrosatables	Not approved (Sb, As, Hg)
Arsenic (As)				
Mercury (Hg)				
Lead (Pb)				
Barium (Ba)				Approved until date of entry into force of EU provisions setting new limits in toys or 21 July 2013, whichever comes first
Nitrosamines & nitrosatables	Consumer Goods Ordinance (Bedarfsgegenständeverordnung)	Toys made of natural or synthetic rubber ≤ 0.01 mg/kg (releasable nitrosamines) ≤ 0.1 mg/kg (releasable nitrosatables)		Approved beyond 20 July 2013

Throughout our global network of laboratories, we are able to provide a range of services, including analytical testing and consultancy for heavy metals, nitrosamines and nitrosatable substances as well as other restricted substances in toy safety for the EU and international markets. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.



SOLUTION

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