

SAFEGUARDS

CONSUMER GOODS AND RETAIL

TOYS & JUVENILE PRODUCTS

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EU STRENGTHENS SOLUBLE BARIUM UNDER TOY SAFETY DIRECTIVE

The EU has recently amended the limits for soluble barium under the Toy Safety Directive (TSD) to be in line with EN 71-3:2013. The new law takes effect on 20 July 2013.

In June 2013, we informed you that the new toy safety standard EN 71-3:2013 '**Safety of toys Part 3: Migration of certain elements**' was published by the Comité Européen de Normalisation (CEN, European Committee for Standardisation)¹. At that time, the more stringent limits for soluble barium have, in principle, been agreed and were reflected in the standard.

On 29 June 2013, the EU Commission harmonised a number of toy safety standards, including EN 71-3:2013, by publication in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU)². This means that compliance to these standards gives presumption of conformity with TSD.

On 18 July 2013, Regulation (EU) 681/2013 was published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) to strengthen the limits for soluble barium in toy material categories I-III under TSD³. The official new limits are now in line with those stated under EN 71-3:2013. This amendment takes effect on 20 July 2013; date of entry into force for chemicals under TSD.

Highlights of the amendment are summarised in Table 1

¹ [SafeGuards 111/13](#)

² [SafeGuards 123/13](#)

³ [Regulation \(EU\) 681/2013](#)



TABLE 1.

REGULATION (EU) 681/2013 AMENDING PART III OF ANNEX II TO DIRECTIVE 2009/48/EC (TSD)				
SOLUBLE ELEMENT	TOY MATERIAL			DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE
	DRY, BRITTLE, POWDER-LIKE OR PLIABLE (MG/KG)	LIQUID OR STICKY (MG/KG)	SCRAPED-OFF (MG/KG)	
Barium	1,500	375	18,750	20 July 2013

For definitions of toy material categories I-III and a complete set of limits under EN 71-3:2013, please see SG 111/13¹.

Throughout our global network of laboratories, we are able to provide a range of services, including analytical testing and consultancy for the new EN 71-3:2013 and other restricted substances in toys for the EU and international markets. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.



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