

# SAFE**GUARDS**

SGS CONSUMER TESTING SERVICES

HARDLINES, SOFTLINES

NO. 141/11 AUG 2011

## CANADA PROPOSES TO LIMIT CADMIUM IN CHILDREN'S JEWELLERY

Canada is planning to limit cadmium content in children's jewellery after tests from the government revealed excessive levels of the toxic metal. The proposal requires jewellery products for children to contain no more than 130 ppm (0.013%) cadmium content.

In 2009 and 2010, analytical testing from Health Canada enforcement surveys revealed that some components of children's jewellery contain as much as 93% cadmium. In 2009, results from the Product Safety Laboratory (PSL) of Health Canada concluded that there was no clear correlation between the total quantity of cadmium in a jewellery sample, and the quantity of cadmium that might migrate out of the sample in the acidic environment of the stomach over time.

In October 2010, we informed you that Health Canada issued a Notice to industry to request a voluntary phase out on the use of cadmium and cadmium-related materials on the production, importation and sale of children's jewellery<sup>1</sup>.

On 25 July 2011, Health Canada issued a draft proposal to restrict cadmium content to no more than 130 ppm (0.013%) in children's jewellery<sup>2</sup>.



<sup>1</sup> [SafeGuards 176/10](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Draft Proposal for Cadmium Guidelines in Children's Jewellery, Consumer Product Safety, Health Canada, 25 July 2011.](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Consultation on a Proposed Guideline for Cadmium in Children's Jewellery, Consumer Product Safety, Health Canada, 25 July 2011](#)

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The consultation for this proposal is open for comments from 25 July 2011 until 10 October 2011, after which formal regulations may follow<sup>3</sup>. A highlight of the proposal is given in Table 1.

TABLE 1

SUBSTANCE	SCOPE	REQUIREMENT	CONSULTATION	REMARK
Cadmium	Jewellery for children under the age of 15	≤ 130 ppm (≤ 0.013%)	25 July 2011 to 10 October 2011	Regulations may follow after consultation period

SGS is committed to informing interested parties about developments on regulations relating to consumer products as a complimentary service.

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



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