

Product Safety and Regulatory Notice

Heavy Metals Requirement for Children's Toys, Child Care Articles, Children's Costume Jewelry & Children's Jewelry-Making Craft Kits

URGENT

Heavy Metal Requirements for Children's Toys, Child Care Articles, Children's Costume Jewelry & Children's Jewelry-Making Craft Kits Received at Test Labs on or after April 9, 2010.

ATTENTION: Merchants and Suppliers of Children's Products for Walmart, walmart.com, Sam's Club and samsclub.com in the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

March 5, 2010

ACTIONS NEEDED:

- Merchants must review this Notice and forward to all suppliers.

TOYS, CHILD CARE ARTICLES, CHILDREN'S COSTUME JEWELRY & CHILDREN'S JEWELRY-MAKING CRAFT KITS HEAVY METAL LIMITS:

Over the past several weeks, Walmart has worked with various experts in the U.S. and Europe to analyze the impact of heavy metal restrictions on children's product categories. As a result of this collaboration, Walmart has made the decision to take the proactive step of adopting standards and test methods based on EN 71-3 (British Standard Safety of Toys – Part 3: Migration of certain elements) for heavy metals in toys, child care articles, children's costume jewelry and children's jewelry-making craft kits. These new standards will apply for all products received at test labs on or after April 9, 2010. For Walmart purposes, a child is defined as 12 years of age and under and child care articles are defined as consumer products designed, marketed, or intended to facilitate sleep, relaxation, eating or feeding for children less than 4 years of age, or to help such children with sucking or teething.

These requirements will apply to components of toys, child care articles, children's costume jewelry and children's jewelry-making craft kits that are mouthable or capable of being ingested. Packaging materials are covered by this requirement only if the packaging is reusable and intended to stay in use with the product. In addition, the following are excluded from this requirement:

- Paper and similar materials that are not manufactured from recycled materials
- Printing inks that use the CMYK process
- Precious gemstones
- Semiprecious gemstones and other minerals
- Natural or cultured pearls
- Precious metals
- Surgical steel and other stainless steel
- Textiles (natural and manufactured fibers) that are not manufactured from recycled materials
- Wood
- Other plant- and animal-derived materials
- Ride-on/Bicycle wheels, tubes and tires
- Stroller wheels, tubes and tires
- Writing instrument nibs
- Car seat buckles
- Keyed locks, including keys



New Restricted Substances for Toys, Child Care Articles, Children's Costume Jewelry & Children's Jewelry-Making Craft Kits Manufactured on or after April 9, 2010					
Soluble Limit for Substrate Components					
Antimony	Arsenic	Barium	Cadmium	Chromium	Selenium
60 ppm	25 ppm	1000 ppm	75 ppm	60 ppm	500 ppm

New Restricted Substances for Children's Costume Jewelry & Children's Jewelry-Making Craft Kits Manufactured on or after April 9, 2010					
Soluble Limit for Surface Coatings					
Antimony	Arsenic	Barium	Cadmium	Chromium	Selenium
60 ppm	25 ppm	1000 ppm	75 ppm	60 ppm	500 ppm

In addition to the above metals, Walmart's existing requirements for heavy metals in the surface coatings of toys and child care articles remain in effect as do the current limits for mercury and lead found in the Walmart Directives/Standards on the Merchandise Compliance page on Retail Link.

If the Consumer Product Safety Commission ("CPSC") introduces rulemaking that will limit the use of such metals in children's products, Walmart will adopt the CPSC final rule.

GUIDANCE INFORMATION:

Guidance documents will be uploaded to the Merchandise Compliance page on Retail Link. These documents will assist the user in application of these heavy metal standards to the product.

TESTING SPECIFICS:

- Testing will begin on April 9, 2010.
- Only mouthable components will be tested.
- Heavy metals will be tested at the component level.
- Testing methods will follow those established in EN 71-3.
- Glass, Ceramic, and Metals must fit into the small parts cylinder in order to be tested.
- Other non-exempt materials will follow the established sampling procedure in EN 71-3 for obtaining a 6 mm sample.
- We will accept 3rd party test reports from an accredited laboratory in lieu of performing the actual test for these heavy metals (excluding lead).
 - Test report must be submitted at the same time as the request for production testing.
 - Test report must indicate an acceptable test method.
 - Test report must show a passing test result.
 - If a supplier does not have a 3rd party test report from an accredited laboratory, the laboratory that is used for production testing will complete the appropriate test for heavy metals.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

Please send an email to gmcomply@wal-mart.com.

