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Safety of toys - Interpretations - Part 2: Replies to requests for interpretation of the chemical standards in the EN 71-series

Sicherheit von Spielzeug - Interpretationen - Teil 2: Antworten auf Anfragen zur Interpretation der chemischen Normen in der Normenreihe EN 71

Sécurité des jouets - Interprétations - Partie 2: Réponses aux demandes d'interprétation des normes chimie de la série EN 71

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English Version

Safety of toys - Interpretations - Part 2: Replies to requests for interpretation of the chemical standards in the EN 71-series

Sécurité des jouets - Interprétations - Partie 2: Réponses aux demandes d'interprétation des normes chimie de la série EN 71

Sicherheit von Spielzeug - Interpretationen - Teil 2: Antworten auf Anfragen zur Interpretation der chemischen Normen in der Normenreihe EN 71

This Technical Report was approved by CEN on 9 April 2018. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 52.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

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European foreword

This document (CEN/TR 15371-2:2018) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 52 “Safety of toys”, the secretariat of which is held by DS.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes CEN/TR 15371-2:2017.

In comparison with CEN/TR 15371-2:2017, one interpretation sheet has been added.

CEN/TR 15371 *series*, *Safety of toys — Interpretations*, is currently composed of the following parts:

— *Part 1: Replies to requests for interpretation of EN 71-1, EN 71-2, EN 71-8 and EN 71-14*;

— *Part 2: Replies to requests for interpretation of the chemical standards in the EN 71 series*.

0 Introduction

0.1 Interpretations and no-action decisions

This Technical Report contains replies to requests for interpretations concerning the understanding of clauses in the chemical standards in the EN 71 series:

— EN 71-3: Migration of certain elements;

— EN 71-4: Experimental sets for chemistry and related activities;

— EN 71-5: Chemical toys (sets) other than experimental sets;

— EN 71-7: Finger paints — Requirements and test methods;

— EN 71-9: Organic chemical compounds — Requirements;

— EN 71-10: Organic chemical compounds — Sample preparation and extraction;

— EN 71-11: Organic chemical compounds — Methods of analysis;

— EN 71-12: N-Nitrosamines and N-Nitrosatable substances;

— EN 71-13: Olfactory board games, cosmetic kits and gustative games.

The replies concern those requests that have resulted in an interpretation or a decision that no action is required as the standard is sufficiently clear.

An interpretation does not have the same status as the text of the standard, nor can it overrule the text of the standard. However, following an interpretation should give assurance that the relevant clause of the standard has been correctly applied. An interpretation should only be regarded as a clarification of the meaning of the standard such that stakeholders can apply it correctly in a conformity assessment. An interpretation is not an assessment of the requirement in the standard - it is only a strict interpretation of the meaning of the text.

Disclaimer:

The interpretations have been derived by expert groups of CEN/TC 52. The information contained herein is for guidance only and does not reflect the formal approval by CEN or CEN member bodies. It should be noted that the interpretations are neither part of any standard nor have been referenced in the Official Journal of the European Union.

0.2 Requests for interpretation

Requests for interpretations may be submitted by a CEN member body through its national committee or by a CEN/TC 52 liaison (but not directly by an individual or a company) - in accordance with the interpretation protocols agreed by CEN/TC 52. The requests are then channelled to the relevant CEN/TC 52 working party, which will then deal with the request.

A request for an interpretation may lead to:

a) *An interpretation of the standard:*

This should reflect a reasonable interpretation of how the standard should be used, taking into account:

1) the wording of the standard;

2) the rationale of the standard;

3) the history of the standard.

b) A no-action decision:

This is applicable when it is agreed that the standard appropriately specifies how a toy shall be assessed.

c) A proposal for an amendment of the standard:

This is applicable when it is agreed that the standard is deficient in some way.

NOTE Interpretation and no-action decisions are published in CEN/TR 15371-2, which will be updated on a regular basis.

Proposals for amendments will be progressed as new work item proposals in accordance with CEN rules.

0.3 Answers to requests for interpretations

Since requests for interpretations are submitted through a CEN member body or a CEN/TC 52 liaison, it is assumed that they will keep themselves informed about decisions concerning the request and its progress and will themselves inform the originator of the request as appropriate.

1 Scope

The purpose of this Technical Report is to provide replies to requests for interpretations of actual chemical standards in the EN 71 series:

— EN 71-3: Migration of certain elements;

— EN 71-4: Experimental sets for chemistry and related activities;

— EN 71-5: Chemical toys (sets) other than experimental sets;

— EN 71-7: Finger paints — Requirements and test methods;

— EN 71-9: Organic chemical compounds — Requirements;

— EN 71-10: Organic chemical compounds — Sample preparation and extraction;

— EN 71-11: Organic chemical compounds — Methods of analysis;

— EN 71-12: N-Nitrosamines and N-Nitrosatable substances;

— EN 71-13: Olfactory board games, cosmetic kits and gustative games.

2 EN 71-3:2013+A2:2017, Safety of toys — Part 3: Migration of certain elements

2.1 4.1 Toy material categories - "stickers" (interpretation):

Question

The question relates to the categorization of "stickers" under EN 71-3:2013+A2:2017, 4.1 Toy material categories.

Stickers are often composed of paper/plastic and glue. Sticky/liquid glue as such falls within category II of the EN 71-3 (liquid or sticky material), while paper/plastic falls within category III (scraped-off material). We have considered two situations:

— stickers already on the toy (glue is not accessible to children since the sticker is already on the toy);

— stickers provided as such to children (glue is accessible once the sticker is removed from its backing).

We would like to know whether the sticker materials in the two above cases shall be considered independently for their categorization (i.e. category II for the glue and category III for the paper) or whether the whole sticker should be considered for the categorization.

Reply

— Stickers which are already placed on the toy (glue is not accessible) should be tested as scraped-off material (polymer/paper: category III).

— Stickers provided as such to the child with possible exposure to the thin sticky part (including temporary tattoos), should also be evaluated according to category III as a whole.

REQ 001-13 (UNI, Italy)

2.2 4.1 Toy material categories - “erasers” (interpretation):

Question

The question relates to the categorization of “erasers” under EN 71-3:2013+A2:2017, 4.1 Toy material categories.

Erasers classified as toys which are made of polymeric material releases some particles when used. In which toy material category should we classify erasers?

Reply

Erasers made of polymeric material and classified as toys (see commission guidance document 15) and their released particles are categorized as category III toy material.

REQ 002-13 (UNI, Italy)

2.3 4.1 Toy material categories (interpretation):

Question

How should highly viscous liquids (e.g. approaching solidity) which would fall into category II for the purposes of EN 71-3, be distinguished from pliable modelling materials which would fall into category I?

The following example has been given:

If a portion of a highly viscous liquid category II was removed there would be little evidence of this within a short period of time. The substance would flow into the space previously occupied and create a new level. A category I modelling material would hold its shape if a portion was removed. See example below:

Figure 1