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Child care articles - General safety guidelines - Part 2: Chemical hazards

Artikel für Säuglinge und Kleinkinder - Sicherheitsleitfaden - Teil 2: Chemische Gefährdungen

Articles de puériculture - Conseils relatifs à la sécurité - Partie 2 : Dangers chimiques

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**Child care articles - General safety guidelines - Part 2:
Chemical hazards**

Articles de puériculture - Conseils relatifs à la sécurité -
Partie 2 : Dangers chimiques

Artikel für Säuglinge und Kleinkinder -
Sicherheitsleitfaden - Teil 2: Chemische Gefährdungen

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 6 October 2024 for provisional application.

The period of validity of this CEN/TS is limited initially to three years. After two years the members of CEN will be requested to submit their comments, particularly on the question whether the CEN/TS can be converted into a European Standard.

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European foreword

This document (CEN/TS 13387-2:2025) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 252 “Child care articles”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

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 13387-2:2018.

The chemical part has been updated compared to the previous edition. Apart from some adaptations necessary as a result of relevant reference documents which have been adopted or changed after the publication of the previous edition of the present guidelines some corrections were made. In addition, the recommendations relating to formaldehyde and preliminary aromatic amines were changed.

The CEN/TS 13387 series, with the general title *Child care articles - General safety guidelines*, comprises the following five parts:

- *Part 1: Safety philosophy and safety assessment;*
- *Part 2: Chemical hazards;*
- *Part 3: Mechanical hazards;*
- *Part 4: Thermal hazards;*
- *Part 5: Product information.*

CEN/TS 13387-2 is intended to be used in conjunction with CEN/TS 13387-1. [get full document from standards.iteh.ai](https://standards.iteh.ai)

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to announce this Technical Specification: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

1 Scope

This document provides guidance information on chemical hazards that are taken into consideration when developing safety standards for child care articles. In addition, these guidelines can assist those with a general professional interest in child safety.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 71-10:2005, *Safety of toys — Part 10: Organic chemical compounds — Sample preparation and extraction*

EN 717-3, *Wood-based panels — Determination of formaldehyde release — Part 3: Formaldehyde release by the flask method*

EN ISO 14184-1, *Textiles — Determination of formaldehyde — Part 1: Free and hydrolysed formaldehyde (water extraction method) (ISO 14184-1)*

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

— IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

4 Regulatory, normative and policy background

4.1 General

In Europe child care articles are covered by the Directive on general product safety (GPSD, Directive 2001/95/EC). This directive contains a general safety requirement and does not address chemical substances in particular. However, Article 13 of the GPSD provides for the opportunity to adopt temporary “emergency” measures which may include limit values for chemical substances in consumer products. Such measures had been adopted for phthalates in toys and child care articles and for dimethylfumarate (DMF) and both have been later incorporated into REACH. In addition, Member States can impose actions on products found unsafe.

Restrictions for several specific chemical substances can be found in Annex XVII of the Regulation concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH, Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006) “relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations” as amended.

NOTE If applicable to their type of product or material used, these provisions are expected to be followed by manufacturers of child care articles.

The Regulation on persistent organic pollutants (POP, Regulation (EC) No 850/2004) restricts production, placing on the market and use of chemical substances listed in Annex I of the regulation including constituents of articles. The provisions apply also to child care articles.

Other regulatory provisions relating to chemicals may apply to certain products. For instance, drinking equipment is subject to the Regulation on materials and articles intended to come into contact with food

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(Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004) and plastics components of drinking equipment are regulated by the Regulation relating to materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs. A Directive covers the release of N-nitrosamines and N-nitrosatable substances from elastomer or rubber teats and soothers (Directive 93/11/EEC). Regulations apply where relevant.

Another example of chemical provisions applicable to child care articles is the Directive on packaging and packaging waste (94/62/EC) which establishes among others limits for lead, cadmium, mercury and hexavalent chromium in packaging.

While not directly applicable to child care articles the Directive on the safety of toys (TSD, 2009/48/EC) is an important reference document addressing a product group with similar exposure characteristics and providing a high standard of safety in the field of products intended for children. Hence, specific guidance seems appropriate on how to make use of toys related chemical rules.

It is the intention of the present guidelines to complement existing legal obligations by providing some practical recommendations keeping in mind legal minimum requirements.

Environmental issues are moving in the spotlight. CEN has adopted a policy: the “CEN Approach on addressing environmental issues in product and service standards” calls for incorporation of environmental considerations when product or service standards are elaborated. These aspects are highly relevant in particular for chemicals as far as child care articles are concerned. Hence, this guide incorporates also recommendations in this regard.

4.2 REACH - Short summary

4.2.1 Registration

All chemical substances manufactured or imported in quantities greater than 1 tonne per year per manufacturer or importer shall be registered at the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) unless they are exempted from the scope of registration. The registration obligations apply to the individual chemical substances, independently of whether they are on their own, in a mixture or in an article (when the chemical substance is intended to be released).

4.2.2 Authorization

Chemical substances with properties of very high concern may be subject to authorization before being allowed to be manufactured or used in the European Union. These are CMRs (carcinogenic, mutagenic and toxic for reproduction), PBTs/vPvBs (persistent, bio accumulating and toxic/very persistent and very bio accumulating chemical substances) and chemical substances identified as causing serious and irreversible effects to humans or the environment equivalent to the effects mentioned above. As a first step such chemical substances are incorporated in a so-called “candidate list” which is published and periodically updated by ECHA (twice a year in June and December). The candidate list is also known as the “SVHC list”. Finally, chemical substances identified as requiring authorization will be taken up in Annex XIV or REACH. These chemical substances cannot be placed on the market or used for manufacturing in Europe after a given date, unless an authorization is granted for their specific use, or the use is exempted from authorization.

For the current list of SVHC please consult the ECHA website.

4.2.3 Restrictions

REACH Annex XVII contained specific restrictions on 61 chemical substances or groups of substances by the end of 2016 (66 entry numbers, 5 empty entries). These may apply to all uses of the substance or more specifically to certain product types or exposure scenarios. Some restrictions have particular relevance to child care and use articles such as the limits on total content for certain phthalate based plasticizers and total content limits for certain flame retardants in textiles where there is prolonged skin contact. Some entries, such as the total content restriction for cadmium in certain materials, may apply to child care and use articles where that material is used to make the finished product.

4.2.4 Articles

Articles within REACH are defined as an object, which during production is given a special shape, surface or design which determines its function to a greater degree than its chemical composition (Article 3(3)). This means that most consumer products including child care articles can be defined as articles. Chemical substances in articles do not need to be registered under REACH, except chemical substances in articles that are intentionally released if present in quantities greater than 1 t per manufacturer annually. This could be for example a product with a perfume scent. Chemical substances that are unintentionally released during use are not in scope for registration, like plasticizers migrating out of a product over time.

If articles contain chemical substances on the “candidate list” (SVHC list) in a concentration above 0,1 % (w/w), sufficient information shall be provided (as a minimum the name of the chemical substance) to the recipient of the article to allow for safe use of the article. For consumers the information about these chemical substances in the article shall only be given upon request and within 45 days of the request. (Article 33 of REACH). This requirement is independent of the total tonnage of the chemical substance. No such requirement exists for other dangerous chemical substances in articles.

If a SVHC substance is present in a concentration above 0,1 % in the article and its import or manufacturing quantities are above 1 tonne in total per year per company, the ECHA shall be notified of the presence of the SVHC substance. Such notification requirement does not exist for other dangerous substances in articles.

Chemical substances integrated in articles are neither subject to registration nor to authorization with the exception of chemical substances intended to be released. However, SVHC substances used in or for the manufacturing of articles in Europe may require authorization. Restricted chemical substances (REACH Annex XVII) cannot be used in articles in the EU, nor can they be present in any article imported into the EU.

4.2.5 Recommendations

Manufacturers and standardization bodies involved with child care and use articles should be aware of the developments in REACH and how they apply to the product category. Where the developments are deemed sufficiently protective of children there is generally no further need to elaborate a current or future standard unless the development of new scientific knowledge indicates otherwise. Where REACH covers child care and use articles in a limited way (in particular, imported articles) REACH should not be considered as a replacement for product specific chemical rules.

4.3 Toy Safety Directive and related standards

4.3.1 Short summary of Toy Safety Directive

The Toy Safety Directive (TSD) was published in June 2009 (Directive 2009/48/EC). Part III of Annex II contains the chemical requirements and are summarized below.

Chemical substances that are carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic to reproduction (CMR) substances of category 1A, 1B or 2 under the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008) are only allowed in toys if certain conditions are met:

- If the use and presence of the chemical substance is allowed according to Appendix A of Annex II;
- these chemical substances are inaccessible to children in any form, including inhalation;
- the concentration of the chemical substances does not exceed the concentration limits as set for the classification of mixtures containing these chemical substances in the CLP regulation.

55 listed allergenic fragrances shall not be used in toys only if the presence is technically unavoidable under good manufacturing practice and does not exceed 100 ppm. Another 11 allergenic fragrances shall be declared on a product label if they are present in concentrations above 100 ppm.

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Requirements on migration of 19 elements (aluminium, antimony, arsenic, barium, boron, cadmium, chromium (III), chromium (VI), cobalt, copper, lead, manganese, mercury, nickel, selenium, strontium, tin, organic tin, and zinc) replacing the previous migration restrictions on 8 elements (antimony, arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, mercury and selenium). The migration limits are set for three different types of materials:

- 1) dry, brittle powder-like or pliable toy material,
- 2) liquid or sticky toy material and
- 3) scraped-off toy material.

For the elements arsenic, cadmium, chromium VI, lead, mercury and organic tin, which are particularly toxic, the limits have been set at levels that are half of those considered safe according to the criteria of the relevant Scientific Committee, in order to ensure that only traces that are compatible with good manufacturing practice will be present.

Furthermore, N-nitrosamines and N-nitrosatable substances are prohibited for use in toys intended for use by children under 36 months or in other toys intended to be placed in the mouth. Specific migration limit values are set.

According to Article 46 the Commission may adopt specific limit values for chemical substances used in toys intended for use by children under 36 months or in other toys intended to be placed in the mouth, taking into account food contact material legislation (Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004). These specific limit values are listed in Appendix C of Annex II. By May 2017 the following substances were included:

- tris (2-chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP, CAS No 115-96-8), tris-monochloro-propyl phosphate (TCPP, CAS No 13674-84-5) and tris(1,3-dichloropropyl-2)phosphate (TDCP, CAS No 13674-87-8) with a specific limit value of 5 mg/kg (content limit);
- bisphenol A (CAS No 80-05-7) with a limit of 0,04 mg/l (migration limit);
- formamide (CAS No 75-12-7) with a limit of 20 µg/m³ (emission limit) after a maximum of 28 days from commencement of the emission testing of foam toy materials containing more than 200 mg/kg (cut-off limit based on content);
- 5-Chloro-2-methylisothiazolin-3(2H)-one (CMI, CAS No 26172-55-4) and 2-methylisothiazolin-3(2H)-one (MI, CAS No 2682-20-4) in a ratio of 3:1 (CAS No 55965-84-9) as well as its individual components with limits (content limits) in aqueous toy materials of 1 mg/kg (mix), 0,75 mg/kg (CMI) and 0,25 mg/kg (MI).
- 1,2-Benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one (1,2-benzisothiazolin-3-one, BIT, CAS No 2634-33-5) with a limit in aqueous toy materials of 5 mg/kg (content limit);
- phenol (CAS 108-95-2) with a limit of 5 mg/l (migration limit) in polymeric materials and a limit of 10 mg/kg (content limit) as a preservative.

NOTE A restriction for aniline is in preparation as well as a reduced limit for bisphenol A.

According to Article 18 manufactures must, before placing a toy on the market, carry out analysis of the chemical, physical, mechanical, electrical, flammability, hygiene and radioactivity hazards that the toy may present, as well as an assessment of the potential exposure to such hazards. This is also called a safety assessment. The manufactures must furthermore, demonstrate that the toy complies with the requirements set in Annex II. The assessment must be kept in the technical documentation.

4.3.2 Toy standards

The following standards dealing with chemical substances in toys relevant for child care articles are currently available:

4.3.2.1 Harmonized standards with references published in the Official Journal:

- EN 71-3:2019+A2:2024 *Safety of toys — Part 3: Migration of certain elements*:

This standard contains migration limits and test methods for 19 elements (aluminium, antimony, arsenic, barium, boron, cadmium, chromium (III), chromium (VI), cobalt, copper, lead, manganese, mercury, nickel, selenium, strontium, tin, organic tin, and zinc).

- EN 71-12:2016, *Safety of toys — Part 12: N-Nitrosamines and N-nitrosatable substances*:

This standard contains limits and test methods for N-nitrosamines and N-nitrosatable substances for toys and parts of toys made from elastomers and intended for use by children under 36 months or intended to be placed in the mouth and finger paints for children under 36 months.

4.3.2.2 Harmonized standards without references published in the Official Journal:

- EN 71-9:2005+A1:2007¹, *Safety of toys — Part 9: Organic chemical compounds — Requirements*;
- EN 71-10:2005, *Safety of toys — Part 10: Organic chemical compounds — Sample preparation and extraction*;
- EN 71-11:2005, *Safety of toys — Part 11: Organic chemical compounds — Methods of analysis*.

The standards EN 71-9, EN 71-10 and EN 71-11 which do not provide a presumption of conformity to TSD requirements include limit values and test methods for certain organic chemical compounds such as:

- flame retardants;
- colorants;
- primary aromatic amines;
- monomers (migration);
- solvents (migration and inhalation);
- wood preservatives;
- preservatives;
- plasticizers (migration).

It should be noted, however, that EN 71-9, EN 71-10 and EN 71-11 cover only a small number of organic chemical substances. Consequently, the introduction of EN 71-9 includes the following sentence: “This document, therefore, supports but does not reduce the responsibility of toy manufacturers, importers

¹ Standard is withdrawn.

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and suppliers for ensuring that the use of other substances will not endanger the health whilst playing with toys as intended or in a reasonably foreseeable way”.

4.3.3 Recommendations

The applicable requirements in the Directive including generic CMR exclusions and standards dealing with chemical substances in toys should be considered when establishing requirements for child care articles. However, the limits should be checked and different values should be considered when e.g. the exposure and use profile is different compared to toys or if new scientific evidence suggests that the limits need to be changed.

It is also recommended to carry out an analysis of the chemical hazard that a child use and care article may present, as well as an assessment of the potential exposure to such a hazard.

Manufacturers and importers of as well as standard setting bodies for child care articles should monitor the revisions of the limit values given in the Toy Safety Directive and the adoption of specific limits for toys intended for use by children under 36 months or in other toys intended to be placed in the mouth. In addition, the developments within CEN/TC 52 should be taken into account. Manufacturers should consider the latest versions of limit values and test methods in the toys field if referenced in child use and care standards, as these are normally updated with some delay.

4.4 CEN Approach on addressing environmental issues in product and service standards

4.4.1 Short summary

The key objective of the “CEN approach on addressing environmental issues in Product and Services Standards” is to put in place a general framework to systematically address environmental issues in standardization in order to reduce the environmental impacts of products and services.

The document defines roles and responsibilities for the various parties involved including technical bodies of CEN, its Strategic Advisory Body on Environment (SABE) including the Environmental Helpdesk (EHD) and the Team on Environmental Issues in Standardization (ENIS), stakeholders and national standards bodies.

The framework consists of supporting tools (guidance documents, checklists, trainings, tailored environmental programmes for technical bodies, etc.) and mandatory elements (review of titles and scopes of TCs, inclusion of environmental issues in business plans, new work item proposals, formatted resolutions, agenda item on environmental issues). It is envisaged to provide specific guidance to TCs/WGs on specific issues including, inter alia, advice on the coverage of chemicals in product standards.

The functioning of the above is subject to monitoring by the relevant CEN groups and will be periodically reviewed.

4.4.2 Recommendations

If specific guidance on addressing chemical substances in product standards is made available by CEN's advisory bodies on environmental issues it should be taken into consideration. Environmental concerns should be taken on board in the development of standards for child care articles, i.e. also environmental effects of chemical substances should be addressed. This means to not only consider human health but also environmental impacts, e.g. to eliminate PBTs or vPvB substances.

5 Basics of Chemical Safety Assessment (CSA)

5.1 General

The scope and limit of chemical substance restrictions in regulations and standards are most often based on a chemical safety assessment (CSA). This assessment determines the scope relevancy of the restriction (e.g. type of material, accessibility, etc.) and provides recommended safe limit value based on the