

Toy Industry Regulatory Updates What's new in 2020?

From new harmonized standards to specific regulation updates, UL wants to keep you up to date on changes that are taking place within the toy industry in 2020 to help your products remain in compliance.

We highlight some major regulatory changes so you can be prepared to continue creating safe toys for children around the globe.

Our experts remain ready to answer any questions you may have about these upcoming changes.



Safety of toys in Europe: EN 71 series of standards harmonization

On Oct. 16, 2019, the European Commission published the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/1728, on harmonized standards for toys drafted in support of Directive 2009/48/EC.

After this decision, EN 71-3:2019 is now the harmonized standard for the safety of toys - migration of certain elements. EN 71-3:2019 replaces EN 71-3:2013+A3:2018, which will be withdrawn on April 15, 2020. The new standard has been published and includes:

- Since Nov. 18, 2019, the new chromium VI limit (category III: 0,053 mg/kg) applies
- The latest technical and scientific processes have been implemented into the test methods described in standard EN 71-3, which includes an improved measurement technique for chromium VI and organic tin compounds, better controlled experimental conditions when carrying out tests and an improved structure to ease the practical application of standard EN 71-3.

In addition, also the EN 71-14:2018 Safety of toys - Part 14: Trampolines for domestic use has been harmonized (EN 71-14:2014+A1:2017 Safety of toys - Part 14: Trampolines for domestic use will be withdrawn on Jan. 22, 2020).

In the decision, a complete list of harmonized standards drafted in support of Directive 2009/48/EC are published in one act.

CLICK HERE to know more.

Safety of electric toys in Europe: new EN 62115

On Sept. 2, 2020, the new EN IEC 62115:2020/A11:2020 will be published. The new standard is based on IEC 62115:2017 and will include few European deviation (basically based on difference standard reference EN instead of ISO/IEC).

The main differences, compared to EN 62115:2005 + A12:2015, are:

- Chapter numbering
- General criteria (§ 6) created 6.3 and 6.4
- Markings (§ 7) specific markings for toys with button/ coin cells (§ 7.3.3.2 and § 7.3.3.3) and specific markings for ride-on toys (§ 7.5)
- Abnormal heating and operation (§ 9) specific tests for USB-powered toys (§ 9.8)
- Dielectric strength (§ 10) the test method is completely new
- Electric toys used in water, electric toys used with liquids and electrics cleaned with liquid (§ 11) - a new category of toys has been created (toys to be filled with liquid), a specific test is provided
- Mechanical resistance (§ 12) the hammer test was "lightened"; only 3 shots at 0.5J (§ 12)
- Construction (§ 13) all toys must have not accessible batteries, the screw used on battery compartment must not "come loose" with less than 20N (§ 13.4.6), no toy can have free wires without connectors (§ 13.5)
- Components (§ 15) if the toy is supplied with batteries installed, evidence must be given that the batteries meet the requirement of specific standards (§ 15.5)
- Screws (§ 16) all the screws are tested, even those with diameters less than 2.8mm (§ 16.1)
- Radiation (§ 19) new test method for LEDs (assessment + eventual measures)
- Specific requirements for radio-controlled ride-on toys

New Aluminum migration limits in EU Toy Safety Directive

On Nov. 19, 2019, the European Commission published the Directive (EU) 2019/1922 to strengthen aluminum migration in the three categories of toy materials. This directive replaces entry for aluminum to point 13 of part III of Annex II with the following revised limits:

Limits	Dry, brittle, powder- like or pliable toy material	Liquid or sticky toy material	Scraped-off toy material
Limits into force	5.625 mg/kg	1.406 mg/kg	70.000 mg/kg
Limits that will enter into force on May 20, 2021	2.250 mg/kg	560 mg/kg	28.130 mg/kg

On Dec. 8, 2019, this directive has been enforced. EU member states shall adopt this directive by May 19, 2021.



New Formaldehyde limits in EU Toy Safety Directive, Appendix C

The European Commission has published the Commission Directive (EU) 2019/1929 to amend Appendix C to Directive 2009/48/EC on Toy Safety.

This directive adds formaldehyde (CAS No: 50-00-0) to Appendix C to Annex II with the following limits:

- 1.5 mg/l (migration limit) in polymeric toy material
- 0.1 ml/m3 (emission limit) in resin-bonded wood toy material
- 30 mg/kg (content limit) in textile toy material
- 30 mg/kg (content limit) in leather toy material
- 30 mg/kg (content limit) in paper toy material
- 10 mg/kg (content limit) in water-based toy material

On Dec. 9, 2019, this directive has been enforced. EU member states shall adopt this directive by May 20, 2021.

EU - New Phthalates requirements according to REACH Annex XVII entry 51

On Dec. 18, 2018, the European Commission published Regulation 2018/2005 which amends REACH Annex XVII entry 51 related to certain phthalates.

Some of the main changes introduced are:

- Restrictions will apply to every article (unless specifically exempted), not only for toys and childcare articles.
- One additional phthalate, DIBP (CAS No: 84-69-5), is added to the list (current restricted phthalates: DEHP, DBP, BBP).
- Clarifications have been added to better define the meaning of plasticized materials, prolonged contact with human skin and childcare articles.

The regulation was entered into force on Jan. 7, 2019. The amended restrictions will apply from July 7, 2020, and are for:

- DIBP in toys or childcare articles (entry 51.2)
- DEHP, DBP, BBP, DIBP in other articles (entry 51.3)

CLICK HERE to know more.

USA - California enactment of Assembly Bill 2998 banning all flame retardants in children's products comes in to force Jan. 1, 2020

On Sept. 29, 2018, Gov. Jerry Brown has signed Assembly Bill No. 2998 (AB 2998) prohibiting flame retardants in certain consumer products.

This act prohibits the sale, offer for sale and distribution of juvenile products, upholstered furniture, and mattresses containing flame retardants at levels above 1,000 parts per million. This act also specifies tasks and activities to be completed by the Bureau of Electronic and Appliance Repair, Home Furnishings, and Thermal Insulation (BEARHFTI) and International Sleep Products Association (ISPA).

The enforcement date for these changes is Jan. 1, 2020.

CLICK HERE to learn more about the prohibited flame retardants by this act.

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