

## EU Proposes to Limit Formaldehyde in Certain Toy Materials

On December 18, 2018, the World Trade Organization (WTO) circulated a notification announcing a proposal from the European Union (EU) to restrict formaldehyde in specific toy materials under Appendix C to Annex II to Directive 2009/48/EC, the Toy Safety Directive (TSD).

This draft Commission Directive aims to include, in Appendix C to Annex II to Directive 2009/48/EC, limit values for formaldehyde in polymeric toy material, resin-bonded wood toy material, textile toy material, leather toy material, paper toy material and water-based toy material used in toys intended for use by children under 36 months or in other toys intended to be placed in the mouth.

### **Proposed limit values for Formaldehyde:**

Toy material	Substance	Test Method	Limit
Polymeric	Formaldehyde migration	EN 71-10:2005 and EN 71-11:2005	≤ 1.5 mg/L
Resin-bonded wood	Formaldehyde emission	EN 717-1:2004	≤ 0.1 mL/m <sup>3</sup>
Textile	Formaldehyde content	EN ISO 14184-1:2011	≤ 30 mg/kg
Leather		EN ISO 17226-1:2008	≤ 30 mg/kg
Paper		EN 645:1993 and EN 1541:2001	≤ 30 mg/kg
Water-based		EDQM method	≤ 10 mg/kg

According to the WTO notification (G/TNT/N/EU/635), the draft Directive is proposed to be adopted in the second quarter of 2019 and **the proposed date of entry into force is the last quarter of 2020** (18 months after publication in the Official Journal of the EU).

Formaldehyde is classified as carcinogenic category 1B under Regulation (EC) No.1272/2008, a concentration of 0.1% (1,000mg/kg) shall not be exceeded according to point 4(a) of Part III of Annex II to Directive 2009/48/EC before implementation and adoption of the above proposal by the Member States.

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