

US CPSC Exempts Certain Plastics from Phthalates Testing

On August 30, 2017, the US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has published a final rule, known as **16 CFR Part 1308**, in the Federal Register which exempts seven plastics, with specified additives, used in children's toys and child care articles from the third-party phthalate testing requirements, as their consistent compliance with the phthalates content limits in Section 108 of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA) can be highly assured. **This rule will come into force on September 29, 2017**, 30 days from its official publication.

Third-party phthalate testing exemption is granted to the following plastics with specified additives listed in Section 1308.2 of 16 CFR Part 1308:

- 1) Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS)
- 2) Polypropylene (PP)
- 3) Polyethylene (PE)
- 4) General purpose polystyrene (GPPS), medium-impact polystyrene (MIPS), high-impact polystyrene (HIPS), and super high-impact polystyrene (SHIPS)

However, children's toys and child care articles must still comply with the CPSIA phthalates prohibitions, regardless of any relief from third-party testing requirements. Moreover, manufacturers must issue a certificate stating the compliance of their product(s) with CPSC requirements.



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