



Update on the development of EN71

26 September 2012

In 2011, updated versions of EN71-1, EN71-2, EN71-8 and EN 62115 were published to support the requirements in the new Toy Safety Directive (TSD). Currently work is underway to also update the chemical standards to support the new TSD chemical requirements that enter into force on 20 July 2013.

Toy Safety Standards

In 2011, the following updated standards were published:

- EN 71-1:2011 'Mechanical and physical properties'
- EN 71-2:2011 'Flammability'
- EN 71-8:2011 'Activity toys for domestic use'

The update of standard EN 62115 'Electric toys - Safety' was also published in 2011. This standard is covered in a previous [article](#).

The European standardisation organisation, CEN, is presently working on updating and developing new standards to address chemical hazards in toys. In this regard, the following revised standards are expected to be published in 2013:

- EN 71-3:2013 'Migration of certain elements'
- EN 71-4:2013 'Experimental sets for chemistry and related activities'
- EN 71-5:2013 'Chemical toys (sets) other than experimental sets'
- EN 71-7:2013 'Finger paints'

In addition, two completely new chemical standards are also to be published:

- EN 71-12:2013 'N-Nitrosamines and N-nitrosatable substances'
- EN 71-13:2013 'Olfactory board games, gustative board games, cosmetic kits and gustative kits'

Further work

In addition to the work being undertaken to update toy safety standards in support of the new TSD requirements, other work is also ongoing. Several proposals have either been submitted to the first enquiry or will be submitted shortly. The standards or amendments to existing standards below are intended to be published in 2013 or 2014. It is important to note that these are draft standards. The final versions will be drafted only after having considered comments from stakeholders at the enquiry stage:

EN 71-14 trampolines for domestic use

Some children have been injured when using trampolines for domestic use, which is why CEN has now developed a first draft safety standard for this toy category. The standard will cover both small (for children under 25 kg) and large trampolines for indoor and outdoor use. It does not include trampolines used for sports purposes.

EN71-1 – Amendment: Toys intended to emit sound

CEN has been requested to revise the requirements for toys intended to emit sound and to ensure that the requirements cover all such toys. The proposal that has been circulated among stakeholders on enquiry therefore contains requirements for all toys designed to emit sound. In the current version of EN 71-1, requirements for the so-called continuous sound only cover toys intended to be used close to the ear (e.g. toy mobile phones) as well as rattles and squeeze toys intended for children who cannot sit up unaided. The new requirements for continuous sound will, however, include toy drums, toy trumpets, soft-filled animals that emit sound, toy cars that beep, etc. When it comes to impulse sound, the present requirements do not apply to mouth-activated toys (e.g. toy trumpets) or child-activated toys (e.g. toy drums and toy xylophones). However, the new draft proposes limit values for the impulse sound from these types of toy too.

EN 71-1 – Amendment: Toy books / Paper

Some toy books and puzzles made from cardboard and intended for children under three years of age are seemingly safe but have difficulty meeting the mechanical requirements in EN71-1. This is due to the fact that those products may release pieces of cardboard during testing. At present, paper that weighs more than 400g/cm² is considered as a potentially hazardous small part while lighter paper is not. The proposal that is out for enquiry contains modified requirements to allow parts of cardboard to be detached from toy books, provided that it occurs only as a result of the child chewing and sucking the cardboard material. The idea behind this proposal is that cardboard which slowly dissolves does not present the same hazard as a piece of dry cardboard that a child can put in its mouth.

EN 71-1 - Amendment: Legibility of warnings

The new TSD specifies that warnings should be easily legible and understandable. CEN is therefore working on an amendment that will clarify what this means in practice. The proposal currently out for consultation gives examples of 'best practices' for elaboration of warnings to be placed on toys and/or their packaging.

About TIE

Toy Industries of Europe (TIE) is the trade association for the European toy industry, which comprises over 25% of the total world toy market. The toy industry is highly international and is one of the most dynamic business sectors in Europe. Around 80% of the sector is composed of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) which have less than 50 employees. Members of TIE include corporate companies as well as national associations from Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the UK and the Nordic region. TIE membership is open to both corporate companies with a presence in Europe and national associations from European Union Member States (including candidate countries).

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