

New CPSC Lead Testing Requirements Commence in February 2009



In February 2009, new requirements of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) took effect. Manufacturers, importers, and retailers are expected to comply with the new Congressionally-mandated laws. Beginning February 10, 2009, children's products cannot be sold if they contain more than 600 parts per million (ppm) total lead.

Under the new law, children's products with more than 600 ppm total lead cannot lawfully be sold in the United States on or after February 10, 2009, even if they were manufactured before that date. The total lead limit drops to 300 ppm on August 14, 2009.

The new law also mandates additional third-party testing requirements. Every manufacturer (including an importer) or private labeler of children's product must have its product tested by an accredited independent testing laboratory and, based on the testing, must issue a certificate that the product meets all applicable CPSC requirements. Testing laboratories must be accredited by a CPSC-approved Accreditation Body.

CPSC recognizes testing laboratories that are accredited by Accreditation Bodies which are ILAC-MRA Signatories, including International Accreditation Service.

Further information on CPSC laboratory accreditation requirements for CPSIA lead-testing is available at <http://www.cpsc.gov/ABOUT/Cpsia/labaccred.html>.

