

PRESS RELEASE

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All animal equipment inspected failed the NATCP laboratory test

The accredited laboratory of the National Authority for Trade and Consumer Protection (NATCP) tested the product safety of popular pet accessories, including LED collars and leashes, as well as aquarium lights. Of the 20 products tested, none complied with safety regulations, and the unsafe products will be withdrawn from the market.

The protection of animals is a particularly important social factor in the 21st century, therefore, in order to promote and develop responsible animal husbandry and animal protection, it is justified to conduct laboratory tests on animal equipment, as in previous years. The NKFH's accredited Mechanical and Electrical Laboratory tested aquarium lamps, LED collars and LED leashes, as well as hair clippers, hot air brushes, and electric brushes. The samples were purchased from specialty stores, Far Eastern retailers, and online stores.

While last year there was a significant 90% rejection rate, this year experts found even more serious issues: out of the 20 products tested, none of them complied with the standards. The full list of products is available on the NATCP website (www.nkfh.gov.hu).

Particularly significant risks were identified in products powered by Li-ion battery packs: because the temperature of the cells is not controlled by the circuits in the battery packs, lithium-based batteries could catch fire or explode due- to heat. The test therefore examined the existence and proper operation of the temperature control system.

For products that come into contact with water, there is a higher risk of electric shock. In connection with this, aquarium lamps are subject to regulations regarding product sealing, mechanical strength, and the switch must be two-pole only. For outdoor products, the power supply cables must not be made of PVC, as is the case with indoor lamps. In addition the laboratory

also tested the strain relief and cross-section of the power supply cable, the plug, and the adequacy of the insulation.

In all cases where product safety issues are identified, government agencies under the supervision of the NATCP initiate official procedures and take the necessary measures to monitor the market, such as withdrawing the product from the market and recalling it from consumers. The NATCP's goal is to ensure the safety of pets and that consumers have access to safe and appropriate products, which is why investigations are ongoing.

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