



PRESS RELEASE

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The NATCP is testing the heavy metal content of battery-operated toys, stuffed animals, and electronic toys

The laboratory of the National Authority for Trade and Consumer Protection (NATCP) tests battery-operated toys, stuffed toys, electronic toys, and earphones to identify and remove products containing cadmium and lead, which are harmful to the environment, from circulation. Products are sampled from shopping centers, department stores, Far Eastern stores, and online stores.

In recent years, the European Union's early warning system has detected a large number of toys containing electrical components whose solders did not meet the requirements of the relevant EU standards. Last year, there were nearly 300 cases of non-compliance, primarily involving the lead content of solder and the lead and cadmium content of PVC sheathing used to isolate wires.

After the toys have worn out, many people throw them away with their municipal waste, without thinking about the electrical components. In landfills, hazardous elements can end up in the soil and water. EU regulations on electronic waste limit the heavy metal content of electrical soldering. Non-compliance was mostly found in products manufactured in third countries. Therefore, the NATCP pays special attention to testing the cadmium and lead content of solder and wires in popular battery-operated children's toys.

The NATCP's accredited Food and Chemical Laboratory tests, among other things, battery-operated light-up, talking, and moving dolls, battery-operated plush toys, game consoles and walkie-talkies, as well as battery-operated game consoles, children's earphones, and headsets. Sampling is carried out under the professional supervision of government agencies from toy stores, shopping centers, department stores, Far Eastern stores, and online stores.

The testing of products from third countries is a key priority of the 7-point consumer protection action plan announced last fall. The NATCP and the government agencies under its professional supervision are taking decisive action to protect consumer safety and are taking the necessary official measures to remove dangerous products from the market.

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National Authority for Trade and Consumer Protection