



PRESS RELEASE

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The laboratories of the NATCP are testing magnetic toys, plastic dolls, and projectile toys

The National Authority for Trade and Consumer Protection (NATCP) is inspecting an extremely wide range of toys in order to remove unsafe products from the market and uncover illegal sales. These inspections are warranted, as 63% of the toys inspected last year did not meet safety standards. During the inspections, sampling covers all major sales channels, ranging from shopping malls and department stores to toy wholesalers and Far East-operated stores, all the way to online retailers.

The protection of children is also a top priority in consumer protection. Products that are not sufficiently sturdy, are poorly designed, or are made of unsuitable materials can cause accidents or pose a health risk. Toys continue to account for a significant number of entries on the recently published EU product safety alert list: 16% of all 4,671 EU notifications were related to children's toys, and in 2025, 63% of the toys tested in Hungary failed product safety inspections. It is generally observed that a significant proportion of hazardous products originate from third countries and are primarily available in stores operated from the Far East and online.

Based on this, the focus of the NATCP's laboratory testing is primarily on toys that pose a health hazard because they contain banned phthalates (plasticizers) or present a choking hazard to children under 3 years of age. The range of products to be tested, however, includes all products designed, manufactured, and marketed for use as toys by children, including in particular projectile toys, plastic dolls, magnetic toys, bath toys, and other plastic toys made of soft PVC. Products are sampled from shopping malls, department stores, toy wholesalers, stores operated from the Far East, and online stores.

The tests are being conducted by the NATCP's Food and Chemical, Mechanical, and Electrical Laboratories. Subsequently, government agencies under the NATCP's professional supervision will

take the necessary steps in the course of the administrative proceedings. At the same time, the authority is also examining the circumstances of distribution, with particular regard to labeling, warning labels, and instructions for use.

Child protection is one of the most important pillars of the 7-point consumer protection action plan announced last fall. The NATCP and government agencies are taking decisive action to ensure children's safety and are implementing the necessary regulatory measures to remove dangerous toys from the market.

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National Authority for Trade and Consumer Protection