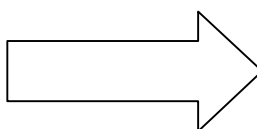


PHTHALATES

Phthalates are esters of phthalic acid and are mainly used as plasticizers, ie. softeners used to increase the elasticity of fabric, usually of plastic materials. In time, plastic materials release phthalates, which enter human body system through food, inhalation, sucking children's toys etc. Research carried out by the EU Scientific Committee on Toxicity, Ecotoxicity and the Environment (CSTEE) confirmed that phthalates may endanger the health of children exposed to their action, causing **reproductive, hormonal and developmental disorders**. Considering that child's body is significantly more sensitive to phthalates than adult human body, EU adopted a special regulation to set the maximum amount of these hazardous substances in toys and childcare articles.

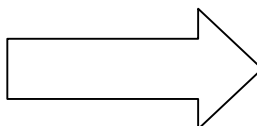
Directive 2005/84/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, amending for the 22nd time Council Directive 76/769/EEC relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations, determines the maximum allowed concentration of the following six phthalate compounds in toys and childcare articles, which must not exceed **0,1% by mass of the material containing plasticizers**:

1. Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP)
2. Di-*n*-butyl phthalate (DBP)
3. Butyl benzyl phthalate (BBP)



Restricted use of DEHP, DBP and BBP phthalates refers to **all toys and childcare articles**.

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4. Di-isononyl phthalate (DINP)
 5. Di-isodecyl phthalate (DIDP)
 6. Di-*n*-octyl-phthalate (DnOP)



Restricted use of DINP, DIDP and DNOP phthalates refers to **toys and childcare articles that children may put in their mouths**.

Toys and childcare articles containing the above mentioned phthalates in a concentration greater than the limit of 0.1% by mass shall not be placed on the EU market.

During risk assessment and within the framework of Council Directive 67/548/EEC of 27 June 1967 on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labeling of dangerous substances, di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), dibutyl phthalate (DBP) and benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP) **have been identified as reprotoxic substances and have therefore been classified as reprotoxic, category 2.**

Scientific information regarding di-isononyl phthalate (DINP), di-isodecyl phthalate (DIDP) and di-*n*-octyl phthalate (DNOP) is either lacking or conflictual, but **it cannot be excluded that they pose a potential risk** if used in toys and childcare articles, which are by definition produced for children.

According to current knowledge, it is impossible to visually determine the presence of phthalates in toys and childcare articles. **The presence of phthalates may be determined reliably by laboratory testing.**

In order to protect the health of children in BiH, Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted **The Decision on the restriction of placing toys and childcare articles containing phthalates on the market**, transposing Directive 2005/84/EC.