

## Health Canada Bans TCEP in Children's Products

On April 23, 2014, Health Canada amended the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (CCPSA) to prohibit the manufacture, import or sale of products that are made, in whole or in part, of polyurethane foam containing tris (2-chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP) for children under three years of age. The prohibition includes products such as toys, sleep positioners and nursing pillows.

According to its notice, these products are added to Schedule 2 of the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (CCPSA). All products listed in Schedule 2 is banned from manufacture, import, advertising or sale under section 5 of the Act.

The substance TCEP is an industrial chemical with flame retardant properties. It is commonly used as a plasticizer and viscosity regulator with flame retardant properties in polyurethanes, polyester resins, polyacrylates and other polymers.

After an assessment under the Canada government's Chemicals Management Plan, TCEP has been considered as a toxicant in this country, as exposure to this chemical may cause cancer and reproductive harm. Especially, young children are considered to be at the greatest risk of oral exposure to TCEP, since mouthing and sucking activity is very common behavior of them and TCEP can migrate out of foam toys and foam children's products through this behavior.

The Canadian Government would enhance the safety of infants and toddlers from the possible harmful effects from unnecessary exposure to TCEP in the children's products by amending Schedule 2 to the CCPSA.

The amended regulation will enter into force in October, 2014.

### **Link**

**Canada Gazette, Vol. 148, No. 9, April 23, 2014**

<http://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2014/2014-04-23/html/sor-dors79-eng.php>

**FITIPlus, December, 2013**

[http://fiti.re.kr/webzine/contents/2012/12\\_01/Canada\\_Proposed\\_Ban\\_TCEP\\_Children\\_Products.pdf](http://fiti.re.kr/webzine/contents/2012/12_01/Canada_Proposed_Ban_TCEP_Children_Products.pdf)