

PFI Fareast

China: Children's Footwear Standard Comes into Force in 2016

GB 30585-2014 "Safety technical specification for children's footwear" is the official title of the children's footwear standard which is due to come into force in China on 1 January 2016. This standard is one of the two most important mandatory standards of the Chinese footwear industry, the other one being the previously issued GB 25038-2010 "Rubber shoe healthy and safe specification". The new standard specifies the various factors that could cause harm to children and places special emphasis on the physical and mechanical safety of children's shoes and limits for harmful substances, some of which appear for the first time in the footwear standard. It has great significance for manufacturers of children's shoes, for the shoe trade, and for the inspection of shoes imported into China.

Children's shoes must comply with higher quality standards than adults' shoes. Since children are still developing, their skin is more sensitive and their physical resistance is lower than in the case of adults. Children under 3 years of age are apt to put anything they can lay their hands on into their mouths because of their cognitive development status and natural curiosity. Therefore, the Chinese standard requires that children's shoes must satisfy the following criteria with regard to physical and mechanical safety:

- The whole shoe (including accessories, heels and other components) should not have any exposed nail tips, sharp points and edges, or broken needles;
- all attachments should be secured firmly and effectively;
- the heel height should not be greater than 25 mm.



With regard to chemical safety, the standard requires that the content of harmful substances (see the list below) and odour levels should meet relevant limits.

- AZO dyes;
- formaldehyde;
- heavy metals: chromium VI, lead, cadmium, and arsenic;
- dimethyl fumarate;
- nitrosamines;
- phthalates

The impending coming into force of the standard will lead manufacturers step by step to compliance with these technical safety requirements. Traders should take effective measures early to cope with the changes and to avoid any hold-up of a product in the market due to its failure to meet the standard requirements.

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儿童鞋安全技术规范

Safety technical specifications for children's footwear

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Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions:

Dr. rer. nat. Gerhard Nickolaus

Managing Director of PFI Subsidiaries in Asia (PFI Hong Kong, PFI China, PFI Fareast)

Tel: +86 13560702846

E-Mail: gerhard.nickolaus@pfi-fareast.com