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Industry Guide to Canadian Safety Requirements for Children's Toys and Related Products



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This document may be updated from time to time. For the most recent version, consult the “Reports and Publications” link from the Consumer Product Safety section of the Health Canada Web site at www.healthcanada.gc.ca/cps.

The information in this guide has been prepared to provide an overview of the legislation dealing with toys. It is not intended to substitute for, supersede or limit the requirements under the legislation. In case of any discrepancy between this summary and the legislation, the legislation will supersede the summary.

Industry Guide to Canadian Safety Requirements for Children's Toys and Related Products, 2006

This guide provides an overview of Canadian toy safety legislation targeted to industry. It conveys basic information on the legislation, as well as details on the requirements that address specific hazards associated with children's toys and related products. This guide does not provide a complete review of the legislation; for full details the reader must refer to the official legislation (see "Links to Documents and Other Resources" at the end of this guide).

In Canada, safety requirements for toys are specified in the *Hazardous Products Act* and the associated *Hazardous Products (Toys) Regulations*. This legislation is administered and enforced by Health Canada's Consumer Product Safety.

Within the legislation and this guide, the word toy encompasses the following group of products: toys, equipment and other products for use by a child in learning or play.

Under the *Hazardous Products Act*, certain toys are prohibited while others are restricted. The advertising, sale and importation of prohibited toys is strictly forbidden. Restricted toys can only be advertised, sold or imported if they meet specific safety requirements. These safety requirements are defined in the *Hazardous Products (Toys) Regulations*.

It is the responsibility of manufacturers, importers, distributors and retailers to ensure compliance with the *Hazardous Products Act* and the *Hazardous Products (Toys) Regulations*. Product Safety Officers routinely monitor the marketplace and take appropriate enforcement action on any toys that contravene the legislation. Health Canada's Product Safety Laboratory examines potentially hazardous products in order to assess the nature and degree of the hazard(s). The products examined at the laboratory are identified by Product Safety Officers or by other means such as trade and consumer complaints.

PROHIBITED TOYS AND RELATED PRODUCTS

Part I of Schedule I to the *Hazardous Products Act* lists prohibited products that cannot be advertised, sold or imported. Within Part I, items 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 21 make direct reference to children's toys; other items identified in Part I may apply to a toy depending on its design, construction or contents. The following list provides some examples of prohibited toys and related products:

- yo-yo type balls and similar products;
- toys that make or emit noise exceeding 100 decibels;
- balloon blowing kits that contain any aromatic, aliphatic or other organic solvent;

- toys that have had a surface coating material applied to them that contains a toxic element such as lead, mercury, antimony, arsenic, cadmium, selenium or barium in excess of the prescribed limits;
- children's furniture and other articles for children, such as baby bottles and baby gates, that are painted with a surface coating material that contains total lead in excess of 600 mg/kg;
- pencils and artists' brushes that have had a surface coating material applied to them that contains total lead in excess of 600 mg/kg;
- toys that contain a toxic substance such as carbon tetrachloride, methyl alcohol, petroleum distillates, benzene, turpentine, ethyl ether, etc. where the substance can become accessible to a child or where it can be released on breakage or leakage (some examples include: liquid filled wands, necklaces, floating balls and slider balls);
- toys that contain plant seeds as stuffing material;
- toys that contain plant seeds as pellets for making noise and are intended for use by a child of less than three years of age;
- kites containing large sections of material or coatings that can conduct electricity;
- kite strings made of a material that is a conductor of electricity;

- toys that contain any type of asbestos where the asbestos can be separated from the product (for example, play sand containing asbestos); and
- products for infants, including teething rings and pacifiers, that are put in the mouth when used and contain a filling that has in it a living micro-organism.

For a complete listing of prohibited products please refer to Part I of Schedule I to the *Hazardous Products Act*.

RESTRICTED TOYS AND RELATED PRODUCTS

Part II of Schedule I to the *Hazardous Products Act* identifies restricted products for which various safety requirements are defined in specific regulations. Restricted products are identified by their design, construction or contents. Restricted toys must meet the applicable requirements of the *Hazardous Products (Toys) Regulations* in order to be advertised, sold or imported. The Regulations address mechanical, flammability, toxicological and electrical/thermal hazards associated with toy products.

MECHANICAL HAZARDS

The largest category of legislation governing toy safety deals with mechanical hazards. Specific safety requirements are defined for toys that could cause injury, illness or death during

reasonably foreseeable use. In order to simulate reasonably foreseeable use of a toy by a child, and to identify potential safety hazards, drop test and push/pull test procedures are applied as outlined in the Health Canada Product Safety Laboratory Method M-01.1: *Test Procedures to Determine the Mechanical Hazards of Toys – Reasonable Foreseeable Use*.

DROP TEST PROCEDURE

The Product Safety Laboratory Method M-01.1 drop test procedure requires that a toy be dropped four times onto a tile-covered concrete floor. Each drop is conducted with the toy in a different orientation. The orientations chosen are those most likely to cause damage during the drop. A toy is dropped from a height of 1.37 metres (4.5 feet) if it is likely to be used by a child of less than three years of age. It is dropped from a height of 0.91 metres (3 feet) if it is likely to be used by a child of three years of age or older. Following each drop the toy is inspected for safety hazards such as detached small components, sharp points and sharp edges.

PUSH/PULL TEST PROCEDURE

The Product Safety Laboratory Method M-01.1 push/pull test procedure specifies that a push or pull force of 44.5 newtons (10 pound force) be gradually applied over a 5 second period and then maintained for 10 seconds. The procedure is completed on any part of a toy that is likely to become detached or damaged by the application of such a force. Following each push or pull

the toy is inspected for safety hazards such as detached small components, sharp points and sharp edges.

Although the drop and push/pull test procedures were developed to simulate reasonably foreseeable use, actual play by a child can expose hazards that are not revealed through these tests. It is the responsibility of industry to appreciate the variety of ways that a toy can be reasonably used, recognizing children's creative play habits, and to ensure that a toy does not present safety hazards under such use. In order to verify the safety of a toy, it may be appropriate to conduct controlled tests with children and/or to complete "use and abuse" testing as prescribed by other recognized toy safety standards. Some examples of other standardized "use and abuse" tests include: bite, flexure, torque, compression and seam strength tests.

PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

A number of safety requirements related to mechanical hazards are specific to toys likely to be used by a child of less than three years of age, while other requirements apply to all toys. The following are some examples of mechanical safety requirements that all toys must meet, regardless of the age of children that the toy is likely to be used by.

Suffocation Hazards

- Flexible film bags used for toy packaging that are 35.6 centimetres (14 inches) or larger in opening circumference must bear the suffocation hazard warning, in both official languages (English and French), as specified in section 4 of the *Hazardous Products (Toys) Regulations*.

PLASTIC BAGS CAN BE DANGEROUS.
TO AVOID DANGER OF SUFFOCATION KEEP
THIS BAG AWAY FROM BABIES AND CHILDREN.

LES SACS DE PLASTIQUE PEUVENT ÊTRE
DANGEREUX. POUR ÉVITER LE DANGER DE
SUFFOCATION, NE LAISSEZ PAS CE SAC À LA
PORTÉE DES BÉBÉS NI DES ENFANTS.

Such bags must also be made of film that is at least 0.019 millimetres (0.75 mil) thick. For example, the film for common dry-cleaning bags (approximately 0.017 millimetres (0.67 mil) thick) is too thin for use as a toy product bag if the opening circumference is 35.6 centimetres (14 inches) or larger.

- Any toy that is large enough for a child to enter into and can be closed by a lid or door, such as a toy box, must have ventilation holes or openings of sufficient size on two or more sides in order to prevent suffocation. Therefore, any plastic, rubber or similar air-tight storage bin that is large enough to enclose a child cannot be promoted for toy storage.

Sharpness and Puncture Hazards

- Toys containing metal parts must be constructed so that there are no exposed sharp metal edges. In addition, toys containing an embedded wire frame or structure must have the wire ends covered or turned in, such that no sharp points can become exposed with use.
- Plastic toys must not break and expose sharp edges.
- Wooden toys must be smoothly finished.
- All fasteners used to construct toys, such as nails, staples, bolts and screws, must be securely and properly attached so that they do not expose a child to a hazard.
- Stuffing material in dolls, plush toys and soft toys must be free from hard and sharp matter.
- Projectile toys capable of causing puncture wounds, such as arrows and gun darts, must have the leading ends covered with protective tips that cannot be detached by a pulling force of 44.5 newtons (10 pound force).

Hearing Damage Hazards

In order to provide protection to children's hearing when they play with toys, the *Hazardous Products Act* prohibits toys that make or emit noise exceeding 100 decibels when measured at the distance the toy ordinarily would be from the ear of the child using it. The Health Canada Product Safety Laboratory *Test Method to Determine the Noise Level of Toys* (Method M-04) is

used to enforce this item of the legislation. The method specifies ordinary use distances for several different groups of toys (for example, toy phones, handheld toys and tabletop/floor toys). The method also specifies that the **maximal** sound pressure level emitted by a toy be measured using the “Fast” or “F” time weighting and the “A” frequency weighting, over a minimum five second sound generation period.

Other Mechanical Hazards

- Toys with folding mechanisms, such as a child’s folding lawn chair, must have a safety device designed to prevent unintentional collapse. Children have had their finger tips amputated when folding chairs collapsed unexpectedly.
- Toys with a winding key or spring-wound driving mechanism must be constructed to prevent injury from finger entrapment.
- Stationary toys designed to bear a child’s weight must stand level and firm when used in order to reduce fall hazards.
- Eyes and noses on dolls, plush toys and soft toys that are 32 millimetres (1.25 inches) or smaller in their greatest dimension must be solidly attached in order to reduce choking, ingestion and inhalation hazards. This type of component is tested by freely suspending a 9 kilogram (20 pound) weight from it for a period of 5 minutes. This requirement does not apply to eyes or noses made *entirely* of felt or other soft textile fibre material.

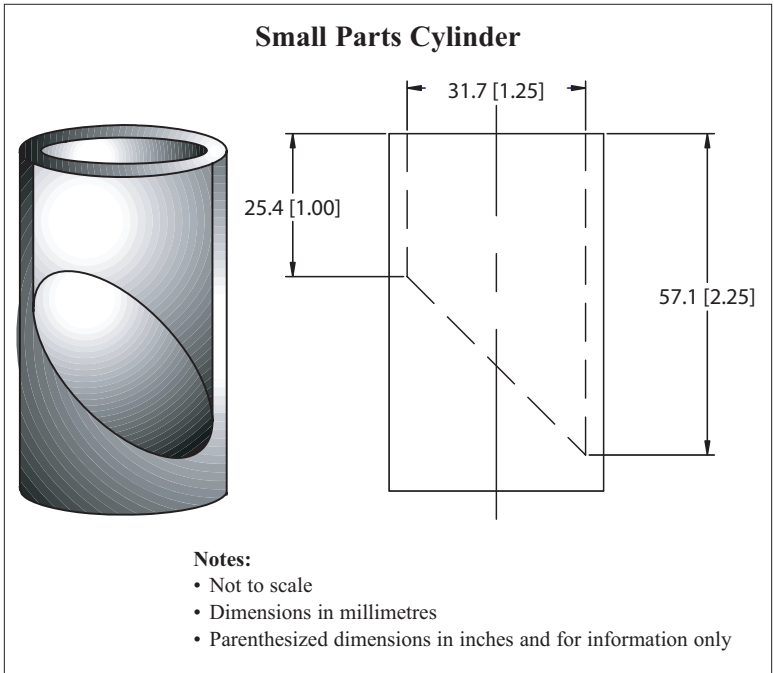
CHILDREN LESS THAN THREE YEARS OF AGE NEED SPECIAL PROTECTION

The *Toys: Age Classification Guidelines* is available from Health Canada's Consumer Product Safety to assist businesses in identifying toys likely to be used by a child of less than three years of age.

Toys with Small Components

Since young children often put things in their mouths, small objects in a child's environment present choking, ingestion and inhalation hazards. The *Hazardous Products (Toys) Regulations* aim to protect young children from small component hazards in toys. The Regulations are applied such that any toy likely to be used by a child of less than three years of age must not be small, have a small separable component or have a small component that can detach from the toy with reasonably foreseeable use (see the "Drop Test Procedure" and the "Push/Pull Test Procedure" sections of this guide). If a toy, or a separable or detachable toy component, can be totally enclosed in the small parts cylinder, as illustrated, **using a force of 4.45 newtons (1 pound force)** or less, then the toy is considered non-compliant and it cannot be advertised, sold or imported. The small component requirement does not apply to toys or toy components that are made *entirely* of soft textile fibre material (for example, doll socks).

Note that if a toy is age labelled for children three years or older, but it is considered by Health Canada as likely to be used by a child of less than three years of age, then the small component requirement of the legislation applies. The toy must not be a small component, have a separable small component or release one with reasonably foreseeable use.



Small components are serious choking, ingestion and inhalation hazards for young children. Examples of some types of toys that have presented hazards related to small components include:

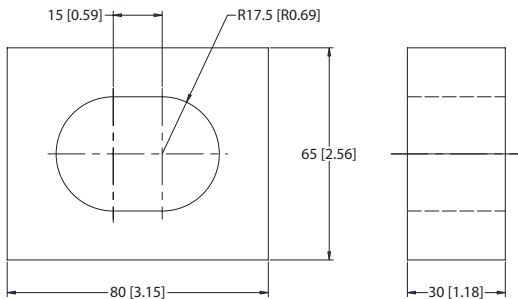
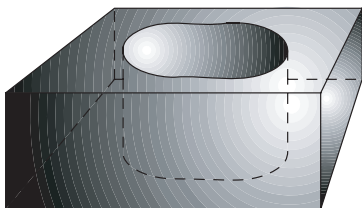
- simple puzzles with small pieces – ensure that none of the pieces fit into the small parts cylinder;
- simple puzzles with small pegs for grasping – ensure that the pegs are securely attached;
- dolls, plush toys and soft toys with small attachments (for example, eyes, nose, decorations) – ensure that the small attachments cannot be pulled off when exposed to the appropriate force;
- rattles and other toys for young children made of brittle plastic – ensure that the toy does not break and release small or sharp components when dropped; and
- toys with battery compartments that are not securely closed – ensure that batteries will not be released when the toy is dropped.

Rattles

A rattle is any toy designed for an infant to hold in the hand and to make noise when it is shaken. A rattle must be constructed such that no part of it can enter an infant's mouth and become lodged in the back of the throat. Careful examination of the size and shape of all rattles is required, with special attention to key shaped rattles and animal shaped rattles (for example, those with long ears or feet). A rattle does not meet the safety requirement

if any part of it can fit all the way through the opening of the rattle impaction test gauge (see illustration of gauge that follows). This requirement also applies to any part of the rattle that can be removed with a force of 50 newtons (11.2 pound force) or a torque of less than 1 newton metre (8.85 inch pounds). Other toy prohibitions and restrictions apply to rattles, such as the small component restriction for toys likely to be used by a child of less than three years of age.

Rattle Impaction Test Gauge



Notes:

- Not to scale
- Dimensions in millimetres
- Parenthesized dimensions in inches and for information only

Pull and Push Toys

All pull and push toys with shaft-like handles of 10 millimetres (0.375 inches) in diameter or less, in addition to meeting all other relevant safety requirements, must have a protective tip attached to the end of the handle. The protective attachment is required to prevent puncture wounds and it must be held in place with enough strength to withstand a pulling force of 44.5 newtons (10 pound force).

Elastics

In order to prevent strangulation, an elastic designed for attaching a toy across a baby carriage, crib or playpen must not stretch beyond 750 millimetres (30 inches) or it must not extend more than 75% of its relaxed length.

FLAMMABILITY HAZARDS

Stringent flammability requirements are in place for all textile materials used for the outer covering of dolls, plush toys and soft toys, including their clothing, as well as for the hair on these types of toys. The purpose of these requirements is to protect children from burn injuries by eliminating the use of materials that ignite rapidly and burn rapidly. A doll, plush toy or soft toy contravenes the *Hazardous Products (Toys) Regulations* if samples of its outer fabric, held at an angle of 45 degrees, ignite within 1 second of contact with a flame and the flame travels a distance of 127 millimetres (5 inches) in

7 seconds or less. A doll, plush toy or soft toy contravenes the Regulations if it has hair or a mane that ignites within 1 second of contact with a flame and does not self-extinguish within 2 seconds after the flame is removed.

Children's play tents must meet the requirements of the *Hazardous Products (Tents) Regulations*. These Regulations address flammability hazards and include performance and labelling requirements.

Flammability requirements are also in place for other textile products for children. Details of the requirements for textile products in general, such as children's daywear, costumes and bedding, as well as the requirements for children's sleepwear, can be found in Parts I and II of Schedule I to the *Hazardous Products Act*. Further requirements for children's sleepwear can be found in the *Hazardous Products (Children's Sleepwear) Regulations*.

TOXICOLOGICAL HAZARDS

To minimize exposure to known harmful chemicals, toxic substances are prohibited from use in toys (see "Prohibited Toys and Related Products" at the beginning of this guide) or they are restricted to limited amounts based on known toxicity parameters. As an example, the *Hazardous Products (Toys) Regulations* requires that all finger paints be water-based. Excessively toxic, corrosive or irritant substances and sensitizers are not permitted for use in toys.

Under the *Surface Coating Materials Regulations* of the *Hazardous Products Act*, surface coating materials must not contain more than 600 mg/kg total lead and not more than 10 mg/kg total mercury. These limits effectively eliminate the intentional addition of lead and mercury in surface coating materials, and serve to protect children from toxicity associated with lead and mercury exposure. The Regulations apply to a variety of surface coating materials of all forms (for example, liquid, aerosol, dried pellets, gel, wax and powder), including those for use by children for the purposes of arts, crafts or hobbies.

The *Science Education Sets Regulations* under the *Hazardous Products Act* are in place to reduce potential hazards associated with the use and mixture of chemicals provided in these sets. The Regulations also protect against the cultivation of pathogenic micro-organisms. The Regulations apply to a variety of science education sets that are intended for use by older children, including chemistry, biology, microscopy and environmental sets. The Regulations aim to minimize the risks of: the possible ingestion of, or skin contact with, toxic or corrosive chemicals; the mixing of strongly reactive chemicals which could produce violent reactions; and the cultivation of pathogenic micro-organisms. The labelling of chemicals, as required by the Regulations, advises the user of the hazards associated with the chemicals and the need for taking precautions when they are used.

MICROBIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Products for infants, including teething rings and pacifiers, that are put in the mouth when used and contain a filling are prohibited if the filling has in it a living micro-organism. This prohibition is in place to protect infants from illness and injury in the event that the filling is released. In order to enforce this item of the legislation, Health Canada's Consumer Product Safety employs the current official United States Pharmacopeia (USP) Sterility Test (currently USP, General Chapter <71>).

ELECTRICAL/THERMAL HAZARDS

Electrical toys must meet the requirements that are set out in Canadian Standards Association Standard C22.2 No. 149-1972 (reaffirmed in 2004), entitled *Electrically Operated Toys*.

Electrical wood-burning tools must also meet all applicable requirements that are set out in Canadian Standards Association Standard C22.2 No. 122-M1989 (reaffirmed in 2004), entitled *Hand-Held Electrically Heated Tools*. These requirements are in place to minimize the potential for injury due to electrocution, burn and shock. Toy steam engine boilers must be equipped with an appropriate safety valve and they must be able to withstand pressures of at least three times the operating pressure of the boiler in order to protect against accidental rupturing.

OTHER LEGISLATION FOR CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS

JEWELLERY

Toy jewellery is subject to all applicable prohibitions and restrictions for toys under the *Hazardous Products Act*. Toy jewellery includes items intended for limited play-time use such as in dress-up play and role play, as well as items that have a toy feature such as a necklace with an attached bubble vial and wand.

Ornamental items intended for regular wear on the body or on clothing or clothing accessories are considered jewellery.

Jewellery that is produced, sized, decorated, packaged, advertised or sold in a manner that appeals primarily to a child under 15 years of age is classified as children's jewellery and is a restricted product under the *Hazardous Products Act*. The *Children's Jewellery Regulations* limit the lead content of children's jewellery to not more than 600 mg/kg total lead and not more than 90 mg/kg migratable lead. Children's jewellery containing lead in excess of either limit in any accessible component cannot be advertised, sold or imported. These limits also apply to jewellery-making kits for children and children's jewellery components sold separately, such as beads. The underlying material of a children's jewellery component that has a protective or decorative surface coating is considered accessible, because a child could suck or chew the coating off and gain access to it.

COSMETICS

Children's cosmetic items, such as perfume, lipstick, makeup, nail polish, shaving cream, Halloween makeup, face paint and similar items, are regulated by Health Canada under the *Cosmetics Regulations* of the *Food and Drugs Act*. Where a toy is included with a cosmetic item, for example, a bath toy embedded in a bath soap, the toy component is subject to all applicable prohibitions and restrictions for toys under the *Hazardous Products Act*.

CONSIDERATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Although the *Hazardous Products Act* and the *Hazardous Products (Toys) Regulations* deal with many of the potential hazards associated with toys, the current legislation does not cover all hazards. Manufacturers, importers, distributors and retailers should be aware that they may be legally responsible for injuries resulting from unregulated hazards. The following sections present potential hazards that have been identified, and Health Canada's recommendations to businesses regarding these hazards.

LATEX BALLOONS

A number of deaths have resulted from children choking on uninflated latex balloons or fragments of broken latex balloons. In order to inform consumers of this hazard, businesses are

urged to apply an appropriate warning such as the one which follows, in both official languages (English and French), to all packages of latex balloons.

WARNING!

CHOKING HAZARD – Children under 8 years can choke or suffocate on uninflated or broken balloons. Adult supervision required.

Keep uninflated balloons away from children.

Discard broken balloons at once.

MISE EN GARDE!

DANGER D'ÉTOUFFEMENT – Les enfants de moins de 8 ans peuvent s'étouffer ou suffoquer avec des ballons non gonflés ou éclatés. La surveillance doit être assurée par un adulte.

Tenir les ballons non gonflés à l'écart des enfants.

Jeter immédiatement les ballons éclatés.

LEAD RISK REDUCTION STRATEGY FOR CONSUMER PRODUCTS

As part of the *Lead Risk Reduction Strategy for Consumer Products*, Health Canada's Consumer Product Safety proposes to regulate the lead content of four categories of consumer products to which children are most likely to be exposed, including all toys. The proposed limit for all accessible parts of toys likely to be used by a child of less than three years of age is

90 mg/kg total lead. For all accessible parts of toys likely to be used by a child of three years of age and older, proposed limits of 600 mg/kg for total lead and 90 mg/kg for migratable lead are currently under study.

The total lead content in surface coating materials on toys and other children's products is already limited to 600 mg/kg; see "Prohibited Toys and Related Products" at the beginning of this guide.

CRAYONS AND CHALK

A health hazard is present when children repeatedly chew and swallow crayons or chalk containing lead. Manufacturers, importers, distributors and retailers should ensure that crayons and chalk contain no more than 90 mg/kg total lead, as per the proposed limit identified in the *Lead Risk Reduction Strategy for Consumer Products*.

PHTHALATES IN TEETHERS AND RATTLES

In 1998, Health Canada conducted a risk assessment of children's teething products containing diisononyl phthalate (**DINP**), a plasticizer used to make vinyl soft. Based on the assessment, it was concluded that a potential health risk is present when children who are under a year in age suck or chew on soft vinyl products containing DINP for prolonged periods of time. Manufacturers, importers, distributors and retailers should ensure that soft vinyl teethers, rattles and other buccal products

for young children do not contain DINP. This guidance also applies to diethylhexyl phthalate (**DEHP**), which yielded health and safety concerns in the mid-1980s and has been voluntarily phased out of use for buccal products by industry since that time. Content of less than 0.1% by weight, of either of these phthalates, is considered tolerable and indicative of no intentional addition of the plasticizer.

CRIB MOBILES

Choking, strangulation and other serious hazards may be present if a child can access mobiles and similar products that are strictly intended for decoration or passive amusement and are suspended from a crib, playpen or similar product. Health Canada recommends that manufacturers, importers, distributors and retailers ensure that such products carry a warning in both official languages (English and French). The warning should advise consumers to remove the product as soon as an infant begins pushing up on their hands and knees or is five months of age, whichever comes first.

TOY STORAGE BOXES AND BINS

A toy storage box or bin with a heavy lid that can fall freely poses a severe hazard to a child. This type of toy box design should never be used. Alternatives include a toy box without a lid, or one with a hinged lid designed to stay open in any position and under force.

Ventilation requirements are defined for any toy that is large enough for a child to enter into and that can be closed by a lid or door, such as a toy box. As described in an earlier section, the *Hazardous Products (Toys) Regulations* require such products to have ventilation holes or openings of sufficient size on two or more sides in order to prevent suffocation. The ventilation holes should be located or constructed so that they are not easily blocked by walls, toys, a child or other objects. In keeping with this legislated requirement, plastic, rubber or similar air-tight storage bins that are large enough to enclose a child cannot be promoted for toy storage.

TOYS WITH CORDS

Cords or straps on toys in the form of loops or straight lengths pose a strangulation hazard. The hazard is present when a loop is large enough to fit over a child's head, or when a straight length of cord is long enough to wrap around a child's neck. Health Canada recommends that cords or straps on toys be avoided or of minimal length, especially for toys intended for young children.

BEAN BAG CHAIRS

The small foam pellets or beads used as filling in bean bag chairs are easily inhaled by young children and they present a suffocation hazard. Health Canada recommends that these types of chairs have secure closures that do not allow young children to gain access to the pellets or beads.

TOY LABELLING

While Canadian toy safety legislation does not require that toys be labelled for age appropriateness or that they bear warning labels for choking hazards, **such labelling is strongly encouraged**. Appropriate age labels and valid choking hazard warnings provide valuable safety information to consumers when they purchase toys. Health Canada recommends that a choking hazard warning in both official languages (English and French) be placed on a toy, its package or its instructions for use. Such a warning is appropriate and recommended when the toy, or any of its removable components, can fit entirely into the small parts cylinder and the toy is intended for children who are at least three years of age but less than six years of age.

Note that, regardless of the age label on the toy, any toy considered by Health Canada as likely to be used by a child of less than three years of age is subject to the strictest toy safety requirements – it must not be a small component, have a separable small component or release one with reasonably foreseeable use. The *Toys: Age Classification Guidelines* is available to assist businesses in identifying toys that are likely to be used by a child of less than three years of age.

Other labelling requirements for toys and related products include:

- the labelling of flexible film bags for suffocation hazards (see “Suffocation Hazards”),
- the safety labelling of children’s play tents as detailed in the *Hazardous Products (Tents) Regulations*,
- the provincial labelling requirements for stuffed toys (see “Additional Legislation Applicable to Toys”), and
- the federal labelling requirements for prepackaged consumer products (see “Additional Legislation Applicable to Toys”).

TOY TESTING

It is the responsibility of manufacturers, importers, distributors and retailers to ensure compliance of a toy product with Canadian toy safety legislation. Testing a toy against the requirements of the *Hazardous Products Act*, the *Hazardous Products (Toys) Regulations* and other applicable regulations is a means of assuring compliance. Such testing should be performed by industry or a laboratory prior to marketing a toy in Canada.

When utilizing the services of a private testing laboratory, businesses should verify that the laboratory: has a quality system in place (often verified through third party accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025), is familiar with Canadian toy safety requirements and test methods, and can test to these requirements. For information on Health Canada’s test methods, visit the Consumer Product Safety section of the Health Canada Web site at: **www.healthcanada.gc.ca/cps** and select the “Product Safety Testing” link. For more information on toy testing laboratories, contact the regional Consumer Product Safety office nearest you (see “Contact Numbers” at the end of this guide).

ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION APPLICABLE TO TOYS

All packaged toys must meet the requirements of the *Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act* and the *Consumer Packaging and Labelling Regulations*. This legislation requires that prepackaged consumer products bear accurate and meaningful labelling information to help consumers make informed purchasing decisions. It prohibits false or misleading representations and sets out specifications for mandatory label information such as the product name, net quantity and dealer identity. This legislation is administered and enforced by Canada’s Competition Bureau.

Specific regulations for upholstered and stuffed articles, which includes stuffed toys, are in place in the provinces of Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec. These regulations set requirements for the quality of materials used as stuffing, as well as how the stuffing contents and the manufacturer's registration number are identified on a specific disclosure label.

STAY INFORMED

In Canada, proposals for new federal legislation or amendments to existing federal legislation are published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I. New or amended federal laws are published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II (www.canadagazette.gc.ca). The Consumer Product Safety section of the Health Canada Web site includes links to documents which describe regulatory initiatives (www.healthcanada.gc.ca/cps-industry). The Web site also provides other information for businesses, such as product safety news and updates. Check these Web sites regularly to stay informed.

LINKS TO DOCUMENTS AND OTHER RESOURCES

Official copies of Canadian legislation are available at most public libraries in Canada and in depository libraries of Canadian government information.

A consolidated version of the *Hazardous Products Act* and the regulations under the Act can be found online at:

<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/H-3>

A consolidated version of the *Hazardous Products (Toys) Regulations* can be found online at:

<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/H-3/C.R.C.-c.931>

A consolidated version of the *Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act* can be found online at:

<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/C-38>

For information regarding consumer packaging and labelling, visit Canada's Competition Bureau Web site at:

www.cb-bc.gc.ca

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY CONTACT NUMBERS

For further information about Canadian safety requirements for toys and related products, contact the Consumer Product Safety office nearest you. The table below provides guidance for identifying the appropriate regional office to contact based on your location.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY REGIONAL OFFICES		
BRITISH COLUMBIA AND YUKON		
Burnaby (604) 666-5003 Bby_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca	<i>Serves these locations in the United States:</i> Alaska California Hawaii	Nevada Oregon Washington
ALBERTA AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES		
Calgary (403) 292-4677 Alberta_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca	<i>Serves these locations in the United States:</i> Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana	New Mexico Utah Wyoming
Edmonton (780) 495-2626 Alberta_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca		

MANITOBA AND SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatoon

(306) 975-4502

Sk_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Serves these locations in the United States:

Arkansas

Nebraska

Iowa

North Dakota

Kansas

Oklahoma

Louisiana

South Dakota

Winnipeg

(204) 983-5490

Mb_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Minnesota

Texas

Missouri

Wisconsin

ONTARIO AND NUNAVUT

Hamilton

(905) 572-2845

Tor_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Serves these locations in the United States:

Illinois

New York

Indiana

North Carolina

Michigan

Toronto

(416) 973-4705

Tor_Prodsafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

QUEBEC

Montreal

(514) 283-5488

Quebec_Prod@hc-sc.gc.ca

Serves these locations in the United States:

Connecticut

Ohio

Maine

Pennsylvania

Massachusetts

Rhode Island

New Hampshire

Vermont

Longueuil

(450) 646-1353

Quebec_Prod@hc-sc.gc.ca

New Jersey

Quebec City

(418) 648-4327

Quebec_Prod@hc-sc.gc.ca

**NEW BRUNSWICK, NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR,
NOVA SCOTIA, AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

Moncton

(506) 851-6638

Atlantic_ProdSafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Serves these locations in the United States:

Alabama

Maryland

Delaware

Mississippi

District of Columbia

South Carolina

Halifax

(902) 426-8300

Atlantic_ProdSafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

Florida

Tennessee

Georgia

Virginia

Kentucky

West Virginia

St. John's

(709) 772-4050

Atlantic_ProdSafe@hc-sc.gc.ca

OUTSIDE CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES

Ottawa, Ontario

(613) 952-1014

CPS-SPC@hc-sc.gc.ca

