

## Stakeholder Information Sheet: Proposed Amendments to the *Hazardous Products (Glazed Ceramics and Glassware) Regulations*:

Consumer Product Safety proposes to amend the Hazardous Products (Glazed Ceramics and Glassware) Regulations in the following manner. The proposed amendments will further protect consumers from exposure to lead and cadmium levels that are no longer acceptable. The changes are underlined.

### **CHANGE 1: Changing the limits of leachable lead and cadmium from the lip and rim area of a drinking vessel with a “distinctive exterior decorative pattern within 20 mm of the rim” (Section 5):**

5. No drinking vessel with a distinctive exterior decorative pattern within 20 mm of the rim, when tested in accordance with the method set out in item 2 of the schedule, shall release lead in excess of 25 mg/L or cadmium in excess of 1.75 mg/L.

Change to:

5. No drinking vessel with a distinctive exterior decorative pattern within 20 mm of the rim, when tested in accordance with the method set out in item 2 of the schedule, shall release lead in excess of 4 mg/L or cadmium in excess of 0.4 mg/L.

This change reflects the current voluntary industry standard for the lip and rim area of drinking vessels set by the Society of Glass and Ceramic Decorators (SGCD) in 1999. The revised limits have also been informally sanctioned by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which use the industry leachable lead and cadmium limits to enforce safety standards related to food use and foodware.

### **CHANGE 2: Updating the testing methods in Schedule I to the Regulations (Item 1, paragraph 1(e), Item 2 and paragraph 2(g)):**

1. To determine whether a product releases lead or cadmium, the following method, which is based on International Standard ISO 6486/1, Ceramic ware in contact with food - Release of lead and cadmium -- Part 1: Method of test, first edition, 1981-06-01, shall be used:

2. To determine whether a drinking vessel bearing a distinctive exterior decorative pattern within 20 mm of the rim releases lead or cadmium, the following method, which is based on a standard of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM C927-80), reapproved 1993, *Standard Test Method for Lead and Cadmium Extracted from the Lip and Rim Area of Glass Tumblers Externally Decorated with Ceramic Glass Enamels*, shall be used:

Change to:

1. To determine whether a product releases lead or cadmium, the following method, which is based on the International Organization for Standardization standard ISO 6486-1:1999, *Ceramic ware, glass-ceramic ware and glass dinnerware in contact with food — Release of lead and cadmium — Part 1: Test Method, second edition, 1999-12-15*, shall be used:

2. To determine whether a drinking vessel bearing a distinctive exterior decorative pattern within 20 mm of the rim releases lead or cadmium, the following method, which is based on a standard of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM C927-80), reapproved 1999, *Standard Test Method for Lead and Cadmium Extracted from the Lip and Rim Area of Glass Tumblers Externally Decorated with Ceramic Glass Enamels*, shall be used:

These changes ensure that the required test methods, which are based on an ISO and ASTM standard, reflect the current versions of these standards. These changes are considered minor and would have no impact on traders since the regulation does not specifically state they must use these standards (ie. they are not referenced as requirements in the regulations).

(e) take an aliquot of the extraction solution and, within 8 hours, analyze the solution using an analytical technique that is capable of detecting

(g) take an aliquot of the extraction solution and, within 8 hours, analyze the solution using an analytical technique that is capable of detecting

Change to:

(e) take an aliquot of the extraction solution and, within 8 hours, analyze the solution using an analytical technique that is in accordance with good laboratory practices; and

(g) take an aliquot of the extraction solution and, within 8 hours, analyze the solution using an analytical technique that is in accordance with good laboratory practices; and

The change reflects the fact that the existing detection limits should not be specified in a regulation, as they are more suited as a guideline. By specifying that the tests must comply with good laboratory practices, this change ensures that the proper instrumentation and calibrations are used during the tests. It also ensures that proper documentation is kept which can help support the results given by a manufacturer if Health Canada disputes or wishes to recreate their test.

### **Change 3: Adding a definition for Good Laboratory Practices (GLP):**

As a result of the above changes, there is a need to add a definition of good laboratory practices in Section 1.

"good laboratory practices" means practices similar to those set out in the OECD Principles of Good Laboratory Practice, Number 1 of the OECD Series on Principles of Good Laboratory Practice and Compliance Monitoring, ENV/MC/CHEM(98)17, dated January 21, 1998. (bonnes pratiques de laboratoire)

**SUMMARY:** These changes will have little to no impact on stakeholders as most already comply with the 1999 SGCD standard for lead and cadmium leachate levels. Consumer Product Safety hopes to have the proposed amendments approved for pre-publication in the Canada Gazette Part I as soon as possible.

Comments or Concerns? Please contact:

Jason Rancourt  
Project Officer/Agent des projets  
Consumer Product Safety Bureau / Bureau de la sécurité des produits de consommation  
Jason\_Rancourt@hc-sc.gc.ca  
Ph# (613) 957-8852  
Fax: (613) 952-1994