



## California's Phthalates Bill approved

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has signed the legislation (pursuant to previous Sparkle Vol. 299) of prohibiting the use of phthalates in toys and childcare products. The bill barely passed both houses and the decision of the Governor was crucial. California is now the first and only state in the nation prohibiting the controversial chemicals.

### The Challenge:

Commencing January 1, 2009, no person or entity shall manufacture, sell, or distribute in commerce any toy or child care article that contains the following phthalates in concentrations exceeding 0.1%:

di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP);  
dibutyl phthalate (DBP); or  
benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP).

In addition to the above, no person or entity shall manufacture, sell, or distribute in commerce any toy or child care article intended for use by a child under three years of age if that product can be placed in the child's mouth and contains the following in concentrations exceeding 0.1%:

diisononyl phthalate (DINP);  
diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP); or  
di-n-octyl phthalate (DnOP).

### Notes:

- **“Toy”** means all products designed or intended by the manufacturer to be used by children when they play.
- **“Child care article”** means all products designed or intended by the manufacturer to facilitate sleep, relaxation, or the feeding of children, or to help children with sucking or teething.

### The Solution:

Intertek is one of the leaders in consumer product testing. We are staffed with technical experts in every area and division, and remain very competent particularly in the area of non-phthalates compliance.

Should you have any query on the above news, please contact Ms. Christina Lin at Tel: (852) 2173-8644 / Ms. Carol Ng at Tel: (852) 2173-8630 / Fax to (852) 2785-8570 / Email: [enquiry@intertek.com](mailto:enquiry@intertek.com)

**Asia Pacific** - 2/F, Garment Centre, 576 Castle Peak Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong, Tel: +852 2173 8888 Fax: +852 2786 1903

**North America** - 2107 Swift Dr., Ste 200, Oak Brook, IL 60623, Tel: +1 630 623 6060 Fax: +1 630 623 6074

**Latin America** - 8300 N.W. 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 400, Miami, FL 33166, Tel: +1 305 513 3000 Fax: +1 305 513 2856

**Europe, Africa, Middle East** - 91 Rue Du General De Gaulle, 27100 Le Vaudreuil, France, Tel: +33 2 32 09 36 36 Fax: +33 2 32 09 36 59

Web: [www.intertek.com/consumergoods](http://www.intertek.com/consumergoods) E-mail: [consumergoods@intertek.com](mailto:consumergoods@intertek.com)

#### Disclaimer

Intertek Testing Services made all reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy of the information. However, the information provided should not be relied upon as legal advice or regarded as a substitute for legal advice. The reader should exercise his own care and judgment before relying on this information in any important matter.