

UK Proposes to Implement the European Commission Decision on Safety Warnings for Toys Containing Magnets

The UK Department for Business Enterprise & Regulatory Reform (**BERR**) has announced the start of the consultation on proposals to implement the European Commission decision ¹ on safety warnings for toys containing magnets. A draft Statutory Instrument and Impact Assessment are included in the document ².



The consultation opened on 2 April 2008, and the closing date for responses is 16 May 2008.

Proposed requirement for magnetic toys to be accompanied by a warning in the draft Statutory Instrument

(1) No person shall supply a magnetic toy unless it is accompanied by a warning containing either: -

(a) the following wording—

“Warning: This toy contains magnets or magnetic components. Magnets sticking together or becoming attached to a metallic object inside the human body can cause serious or fatal injury. Seek immediate medical help if magnets are swallowed or inhaled.”; or

(b) equivalent easily comprehensible wording which clearly conveys the same meaning.

(2) The warning shall appear in a clearly visible and legible manner, conspicuously displayed on the packaging or otherwise attached to the magnetic toy in such a way as to be visible to the consumer at the point of purchase.

¹ The European Commission introduced a decision on 28 February 2008 under Article 13 of the General Product Safety Directive (2001/95/EC) (the “GPSD”).

² The consultation document can be downloaded at: <http://www.berr.gov.uk/consultations/page45528.html>

As your key business partner, STR-HK offers *Testing on Toys and Children's Products* to ensure your products are safe for marketing worldwide!

Specialized Technology Resources (H.K.) Ltd. has obtained HOKLAS accreditation on various toy safety standards. For details of our HOKLAS scope of accreditation, please visit: <http://www.itc.gov.hk/en/quality/hkas/doc/hoklas/036.pdf>

For enquires or other information on toys and reliability testing, please contact STR at:

Email: Toys.enquiry@strhk.com / Telephone: 852-29434676

or visit our website at <http://www.strhk.com> or <http://www.strcn.com>