

# Product Safety Compliance Update



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**AAFA Released 16<sup>th</sup> RSL**

## Introduction

We have been helping companies ensure the unique safety and compliance requirements of a broad range of consumer products since 2003. Our veteran scientific and engineering staff

can provide technical guidance, quality assurance, specifications assessments, training and import export compliance evaluation.



## Law & Regulations

### Mexico Publishes New Standards

### AS/NZS 1249:2014 Published

### New EU Toys standard

### AAFA Released 16<sup>th</sup> RSL

On 6 November 2014, Mexico’s Ministry of Economy published in the Official Gazette a declaration of validity of two new Mexican standards (NMX) for labelling of textile products

A new version of the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1249:2014 Children’s nightwear and limited daywear having reduced flammability was published on 30 June 2014

12 June 2015 , the new amendment A12 to EN 62115 is now harmonised under the EU Toys Safety Directive 2009/48/EC per the reference published in EU Official Journal.

**15 June 2015.** The **American Apparel and Footwear Association** released [the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the Restricted Substance List \(RSL\)](#)

On 6 November 2014, Mexico's Ministry of Economy published in the Official Gazette a declaration of validity of two new Mexican standards (NMX) for labelling of textile products: NMX-A-2076-INNTEX-2013 and NMX-A-6938-INNTEX-2013. These Mexican Standards were adopted as part of the mandatory labelling regulations in Mexico and will enter into force on 9 September 2015.



In Mexico, labelling of textiles and apparel products must comply with appropriate mandatory standards (NOMs) and voluntary standards (NMXs) (if NMXs appears in an official standard, it will become mandatory). Generally, all apparel, apparel accessories, textile products and home textiles with over 50% textile content must comply with the Official Mexican Standard NOM-004-SCFI-2006 for mandatory labelling requirements.

In order to allow manufacturers, importers and marketers adjust their production processes to comply with the new requirements subject to NOM-004-SCFI-2006, the Mexican authorities accept products that are legally in the country before the effective date. The items may continue to be sold until as long as they meet the previous standard, NMX-A-099-INNTEX-2007 and complying with the rest of the parameters specified in NOM-004-SCFI-2006.

According to the Official Gazette, the two new Mexican Standards for labelling of textile products are summarized as below:

### Mexico Publishes Two New Mexican Standards for Labelling of Textile Products

● **NMX-A-2076-INNTEX-2013** "Textiles - Chemical fibers - Generic names" (supersedes NMX-A-099-INNTEX-2007) lists the generic names used to designate the different types of chemical fibers (sometimes also called manufactured fibers or man-made) currently manufactured on an industrial scale for textile use. This standard is fully consistent with the International Standard ISO 2076:2010 "Textile-Man-made fibers- Generic names". The major change in this new standard is that the generic names must be written without capital letters.

● **NMX-A-6938-INNTEX-2013** "Textiles - Natural fibers - Generic names and Definitions" (supersedes NMX-A-099-INNTEX-2007), provides generic names and definitions for the most important natural fibers in accordance with the fiber constitution or specific origin. The standard provides a list of names in common, together with the relevant standard designations. This standard is fully consistent with the International Standard ISO

6938:2012 "Textile-Natural fibers- Generic names and Definitions". One important change in this new standard is that the words "lana" (wool), and/or "pelo" (hair), can be now added before the generic name of some animal fibers:

- 1."lana" (wool) or "pelo" (hair) may be added before the following: alpaca, angora, cashmere, camel, guanaco, llama, mohair, vicuna, yak, beaver (species *Castor Canadensis*), otter.
- 2."pelo" (hair) may be added before the following: cow, deer, goat, horse, rabbit, hare, nutria (species *Myocastor Coypus*), seal, muskrat, reindeer, mink, marten, sable, weasel, bear, ermine, arctic fox.

For apparel and apparel accessories, one or more permanent and legible label(s) must be attached at the collar, waist or any other visible location with the below labelling information in Spanish or in any other language in addition to Spanish:

- Commercial brand name
- Fibre composition in accordance with NMX-A-099-INNTEX-2007 (replaced by NMX-A-2076-INNTEX-2013 and NMX-A-6938-INNTEX-2013 as of September 2015)
- Size
- Care instructions in accordance with NMX-A-240-INNTEX-2009
- Country of origin
- Name and address of the manufacturer/ importer with a voluntary mention of the RFC (federal taxpayers register) number. This information must be included on the permanent label, a temporary label or the product's closed packaging\*.

\*Note: For closed packaging, all information pertaining to NOM-004-SCFI-2006 must be permanently labelled on the product and with a temporary label on the packaging.

A new version of the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1249:2014 Children's nightwear and limited daywear having reduced flammability was published on 30 June 2014 and will supersede the 2003 version. The Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of New Zealand will undertake a review process by releasing a discussion document seeking public comments before bringing the 2014 version into the Product Safety Standards (Children's Nightwear and Limited Daywear Having Reduced Fire Hazard) Regulation 2008. The closing date for comments submission is on 12 June 2015.

The joint Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1249:2014 [1] Children's nightwear and limited daywear having reduced fire hazard contains specific design, flammability performance and garment labelling requirements for four Categories of children's nightwear garments, together with some daywear/ underwear items that may be commonly used as nightwear.

There are a number of significant changes to the new standards. Flammability tests and trim requirements have been rationalized and reduced, a new cautionary label has been



## New Version of Children's Nightwear Standard AS/NZS 1249:2014 Published

introduced, some parts of the 2003 standard have been improved and clarified (and the 2008 New Zealand amendment), and providing users with a more workable document.

Highlights of key changes in AS/NZS 1249:2014:

- The list of garments the standard applies to has been amended.
- A new test has been developed and included in Category 1 to test if the fabric melts and drips molten material.
- The Low Fire Danger label for Categories 1, 2 and 3 has been replaced with a new cautionary label that includes the flame symbol.

- Several trim types have been deleted from trim requirements.

- Trim requirements for Categories 1 and 2 are now the same.

- The garment length and fabric weight limits in Category 4 have been eliminated.

- All-in-one garments in sizes 00-02 that have no nap or pile and were the subject of Category 3 have been excluded from the Standard.

- Blankets and towels that incorporate an arm hole or sleeves are now included in the Standard.

- Labelling requirements apply to online sales, where clear and legible fire hazard information

must be provided as part of the online image and product description.

Garments that do not meet the requirements of any of the Categories specified in the Standard are considered to be very highly flammable and therefore do not comply with the Standard. Some daywear garments have been included in the Standard because of the difficulty of distinguishing between daywear and nightwear for these items. Garments complying with the requirements of the Standard may give little or no protection against burns where flammable liquids are involved.

# Product Safety

## AAFA Released the 16<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Restricted Substance List (RSL)

**15 June 2015.** The American Apparel and Footwear Association released the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the Restricted Substance List (RSL), the industry’s chemical management resource for banned or restricted chemicals and substances in finished home textile, apparel, and footwear products around the world. The RSL, which covers apparel, footwear, travel goods, home textiles, and other fashion accessories.

The 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the RSL covers 12 chemical categories with over 250 chemicals and is updated to reflect additions or changes to regulations and laws that restrict or ban certain chemicals in apparel, footwear, and finished home textile products. These include new standards released in China and Turkey. AAFA’s Environmental Taskforce and Peer Review teams review and update the RSL every six months. :

| Changes from RSL 15 to RSL 16 |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Arylamines                    | Added GB 30585-2014 (Safety technical specification for children’s footwear)  |
| Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases  | Added Regulation (EU) No 517/2014; Removed (EC) No. 842/2006  |
| Metals                        | Added GB 30585-2014 (Safety technical specification for children’s footwear)  |
| Misc.                         | GB 30585-2014 (Safety technical specification for children’s footwear) added  |
| Pesticides                    | Removed: Belgium: The Minister for Public Health and the Minister for Consumer Protection, The Minister for Public Health and the Minister for Consumer Protection, Ministerial Decree concerning the prohibition of placing articles and products containing DMF on the market. Belgian Official Journal , 12.1.2009 |

| When the markings or instructions of 7.4 are on the packaging only, it shall also be stated that the packaging must be retained since it contains important information.   |                          |                  |                      |                        |
|--|--------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| During the tests of a) to f), each low-power circuit is short-circuited by connecting the low-power point to the pole of the supply from which the measurements were made. Should this short circuit cause a hazardous condition the short circuit is removed and the tests of a) to f) applied to each low power circuit. |                          |                  |                      |                        |
| Toys with an integrated field source generating EMF shall comply with EN 62233:2008:   |                          |                  |                      |                        |
| Type of appliance  | Measuring distance r1 cm | Sensor locations | Operating conditions | Coupling factor ac(r1) |
| Toys or parts of toys intended to be used close to the body  | 0                        | All surfaces     | Continuously         | 0.18                   |
| Toys or parts of toys, hand-held   | 15                       | All surfaces     | Continuously         | 0.18                   |
| Toys or parts of toys, other   | 30                       | All surfaces     | Continuously         | 0.18                   |
| Exemption:<br>- Toys without a motor, inductor, IC or which only include passive electronic components<br>- Toys consuming a current of 3A or less   |                          |                  |                      |                        |

## The new amendment A12 to EN 62115 is now harmonised under the EU Toys Safety Directive 2009/48/EC

12 June 2015, the new amendment A12 to EN 62115 is now harmonised under the EU Toys Safety Directive 2009/48/EC per the reference published in EU Official Journal. This new version will be effective in June 3, 2017. The main change is the new- added Annex ZC Toys generating Electromagnetic Fields (EMF).

Main changes on the table left: