
❖SPC&B Safety News❖

A Newsletter for Clients of Sharretts, Paley, Carter & Blauvelt, P.C.

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Italy Seizes Textile Apparel Due to High Levels of Chromium (VI)



EUROPA Consumer Affairs recently reported that Italian authorities seized a variety of textile apparel articles, including embroidered skirts, shirts, and track suits, after finding concentrations of chromium (VI) (“Cr (VI)”) from ranging from 2.4 to 19.2 mg/kg. In the past, concerns about chromium (VI) have been limited to leather products. For example, Germany recently limited the concentration of Cr (VI) to no more than 3 ppm, in leather materials on consumer products that have contact with the skin. Other countries in Europe have not followed Germany’s lead in restricting Cr (VI); however, the Italian authorities justified the seizures based on prevailing standards for exposure to Cr (VI), determining that a limit of 5 mg/kg of Cr (VI) is a “practical threshold beyond which there is a serious risk of allergic contact dermatitis.”

These recent actions are part of a growing trend, requiring companies to test for increasing types of elements in their products. We will continue to keep you apprised of further developments in the U.S. and abroad.

If you have any questions, please contact Gail Cumins at gcumins@spcblaw.com or Donna Shira at dshira@spcblaw.com, or call us at 212-425-0055.

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