

## Swedish agency finds hazardous chemicals in toys

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More than one in seven children's toys in a random inspection conducted by the Swedish Chemicals Agency (Kemi) have been found to contain hazardous substances at prohibited levels.

A similar [survey](#) two years ago showed toys heading the list of products found in breach of hazardous chemicals rules.

In the latest 2015 inspection, 112 toys were checked from 29 different companies. Seventeen contained hazardous chemicals.

In eight toys, Kemi found hazardous phthalates used to soften plastic. Forbidden short-chain chlorinated paraffins were identified in five of the analysed toys. The agency also found lead inside eight electric toys.

The presence of [hazardous chemicals in products](#), such as toys, clothing and textile and childcare articles, remains a key reason for products being withdrawn, or prevented from reaching the EU market.

As a result of its findings, Kemi has reported seven companies to the environmental prosecutor.

The proportion of tested toys containing lead and phthalates has decreased when compared to the previous surveys in 2012 and in 2013. Kemi says the inspections are random checks and do not reflect the contents of all toys on the market.

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