

Technical Bulletin

#1 | 2020

New Standard AfPS GS 2019:01 PAK on PAHs Published

The German Product Safety Commission (AfPS) has recently revised the PAHs standard to 2019 version. The new standard AfPS GS 2019:01 PAK has been issued on 10 April, 2020 on PAHs limits that are subject to the GS Certification.

The new standard will be effective from 1st July 2020, and will repeal the current 2014 version (AfPS GS 2014:01 PAK) from 30th June 2020.

Highlights of the changes are:

- Total number of PAHs is reduced to 15. Three PAHs are deleted, which are Acenaphthylene, Acenaphthene and Fluorene.
- The category content is modified.
 - Category 1 Materials intended to be put into the mouth, or materials in toys according to Directive 2009/48/EC or in articles used by children up to three years old with intended long-term skin contact (longer than 30 s)
 - Category 2 Materials that are not in Category 1, with longterm skin contact (longer than 30 s) or repeated short-term skin contact when used for intended or foreseeable purposes: a. Used by children* b. Other consumer products
 - Category 3 Materials not covered in Category 1 or Category 2, with short-term skin contact (up to 30 s) when used for intended or foreseeable purposes:
 - a. Used by children* b. Other consumer products

"Child" is defined as a person under the age of 14.

*Used by children includes both active and passive direct contact by children.

Refer below the updated limit table (all values in mg/kg).

Highlights of the changes are:

Parameter	Category 1	Category 2		Category 3	
	Materials intended to be put into the mouth, or materials in toys according to Directive 2009/48/EC or in articles used by children up to three years old with intended long-term skin contact (longer than 30 s)	Materials that are not in Category 1, with long-term skin contact (longer than 30 s) or repeated short-term skin contact when used for intended or foreseeable purposes		Materials not covered in Category 1 or Category 2, with short-term skin contact (up to 30 s) when used for intended or foreseeable purposes	
		a. Used by children	b. Other consumer products	a. Used by children	b. Other consumer products
Naphthalene	< 1	< 2		< 10	
Phenanthrene, Anthracene, Fluoranthene, Pyrene	Total < 1	Total < 5	Total < 10	Total < 20	Total < 50
Benzo[a]anthracene	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 1
Chrysene	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 1
Benzo[b]fluoranthene	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 1
Benzo[k]fluoranthene	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 1
Benzo[a]pyrene	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 1
Indeno[1,2,3-cd]pyrene	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 1
Dibenzo[a,h]anthracene	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 1
Benzo[g,h,i]perylene	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 1
Benzo[j]fluoranthene	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 1
Benzo[e]pyrene	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 1
Sum of 15 PAHs	< 1	< 5	< 10	< 20	< 50