



Safety Gate: Rapid Alert System for dangerous non-food products

Alert number	A12/1845/19
Category	Chemical products
Type of alert	Products with serious risks
Product user	Consumer
Product	Tattoo ink
Brand	Colour King
Name	Black
Type / number of model	Unknown
Batch number / Barcode	Unknown
OECD Portal Category	53000000 - Beauty / Personal Care / Hygiene
Description	Black tattoo ink in a transparent plastic bottle with a dispenser cap. The product was sold online (in particular via lightinthebox.com).
Country of origin	China
Alert submitted by	Finland
Risk type	Chemical
Technical defect	The product contains an excessive amount of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) (measured total value: 1.88 mg/kg), benzo[a]pyrene, cadmium and lead (measured values: 320 µg/kg, 0.52 mg/kg and 30 mg/kg, respectively).
Risk	These PAHs and benzo[a]pyrene may cause cancer and are also mutagenic and toxic for reproduction. Cadmium is harmful to human health because it accumulates in the body, can damage the kidney and bones, and it may cause cancer. Lead is harmful to human health, accumulates in the body, can cause developmental neurotoxicity and may also affect breast-fed or unborn children. The Council of Europe Resolution ResAP (2008)1 on requirements and criteria for the safety of tattoos and permanent make-up recommends that the levels of impurities of PAHs in tattoo inks do not exceed 0,5 mg/kg, of benzo[a]pyrene 5 µg/kg, of cadmium 0.2 mg/kg and of lead 2 mg/kg.
Measures adopted by notifying country	Notifying about the risk

Images

