



한국소비자원

Press Release

"An agency for the citizens in interest of consumers"



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Release	Wednesday, April 29 2020 (13 pages)	Department	Chemicals and Environment Team, Department of Test and Inspection
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Harmful substances found from human-shape dolls

- 9 of 16 products not in compliance with safety standards -

There have been continued reports, both at home and abroad, warning harmful substances found from dolls kids play with. The Korea Consumer Agency (President Lee Hee Sook) checked the safety of 16 human-shape dolls* sold online and found nine (56.3%) not in compliance with the safety standards, hence improvement needed.

* Plastic (synthetic resin) products priced KRW 20,000 or less.

□ Out of 16, 9 (56.3%) found to contain harmful substances and not be in compliance with the safety standards

Out of the 16 products analyzed, nine were found to have phthalate plasticizers (DEHP, DBP*) that may damage the liver, etc., ranging from 0.8 - 32.1%, or 8 - 321 times over the safety tolerance (0.1%). Cadmium**, a human carcinogen, was found from one product, containing 127mg/kg, or 1.7 times over the safety tolerance (75mg/kg).

* DEHP, DBP: Irritative to the skin, eyes, mucosa, etc.; may damage the liver, etc.

** Cadmium: May cause the kidneys, etc., to suffer damage; categorized as a human carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer.

- Source: KFDA toxicity information system (Tox-Info)

[Products not in compliance with safety standards]

Product name	Distributors (importer)	Phthalate plasticizers (DBP, BBP, DEHP)	Harmful elements (lead, cadmium)
Doll (Fashion Girl)	SF Distribution	Head (DEHP 32.1%), etc.	Compliant
Beauty Fashion models pretty girls ^{Note 1)}	Cuckoo's	Head (DEHP 30.6%), etc.	Compliant
Dodo Girl 2 MCB-01	Taesung International	Head (DEHP 29.5%), etc.	Compliant
Doll (8811)	Daesung	Head (DEHP 25.7%, DBP 0.4%), etc.	Compliant
Bella ball-jointed doll ^{Note 2)}	JukeBox	Head (DEHP 15.9%, DBP 0.1%), etc.	Compliant
Beauty Girl Cody Set	Foorun Fancy	Head (DEHP 14.0%, DBP 0.2%), etc.	Compliant
Abbey's Fashion Princess	T-Blue	Shoes2 (pink) (DEHP 11.5%, DBP 1.2%), etc.	Compliant
Doll (YBC-169-3)	Daesung	Shoes (pink) (DEHP 9.9%, DBP 0.2%), etc.	Shoes (pink) (cadmium 127mg/kg)
Beauty Girl	Foorun Fancy	Arms (DEHP 2.7%, DBP 0.1%), etc.	Compliant

o Annex 6 (Toys) of the Safety Standards for Children's Products Subject to Safety Check, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy Notification No. 2018-227, December 12 2018.

- Total phthalate plasticizers (DBP, BBP, DEHP): not exceeding 0.1%

- Total lead (Pb): not exceeding 300 mg/kg, total cadmium (Cd): not exceeding 75 mg/kg

o DBP (Dibutyl phthalate), BBP (Butyl benzyl Phthalate), DEHP (Diethylhexyl phthalate)

Note 1) The product's distributor (importer) Cuckoo's was found closed.

Note 2) No Korean labelling on the product; product name as shown in the receipt.

⇒ SF Distribution, Taesung International, Daesung, JukeBox, Foorun Fancy, T-Blue have replied that they would take voluntary corrective measures such as sales suspension and refund.

Four products (25.0) not in compliance with labelling requirements with partial or full omissions in Korean

The agency also looked into if the products were in compliance with all labelling requirements intended to help consumers choose and use the right product. Four were found not in compliance, with partial or full omissions of label information, such as date manufactured, in Korean.

Two (12.5%) sold without safety mark (KC Mark)

Toys that are children's products subject to safety check must bear a safety mark to allow consumers to check their safety. Two were found in absence of such marks.

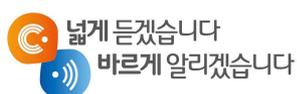
* Children's products subject to safety check: Children's products, for their structure, materials, or ways in which they are used, that might pose risk to

children's body or life, which is considered preventable by product inspection hence so designated by a Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy Ordinance.

To rule out products not in compliance with safety standards out of the market, the Korea Consumer Agency asked the consultative body of online sales intermediaries* to stop selling those products and importers and sellers of these incompliant products to take voluntary corrective measures. They accepted the request and agreed to take measures such as sales suspension and refund. The agency also plans to ask the Korean Agency for Technology and Standards to further tighten safety supervision of human-shape dolls made from synthetic resins.

* Consultative body: Organized by the Korea Consumer Agency and businesses to take joint measures in response to safety issues related to consumers and reduce hazard.

The Korea Consumer Agency will continue serving as a source of information on children's products to ensure consumer safety.



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※ The Korea Consumer Agency listens to citizens' opinions and suggestions related to the agency operations on its citizen suggestion system.

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