



TIE Statement on the results of the Commission's stocktaking exercise on toy safety

22 November 2007

Toy Industries of Europe (TIE) welcomes the review of consumer product safety mechanisms initiated by Commissioner Kuneva. This stocktaking exercise which has focused on toys represents an important step in fostering a better understanding of the toy industry, the challenges it faces and the global environment in which it operates.

Safety is the toy industry's top priority and in this context we particularly support the Commissioner's view that:

- Current safety legislation, when properly enforced, provides a satisfactory framework to ensure toy safety
- More and better enforcement of the current rules is needed
- Enhancing the RAPEX system (rapid alert system for dangerous consumer products) is an important step
- Continuing and increasing international cooperation with both the US and China is an essential factor in achieving global results

These objectives fully concur with the industry's ongoing work in this area.

In a similar effort to seek global solutions in the area of toy safety the industry has recently begun working with its US counterparts - primarily in the area of conformity assessment through the development of a process auditing system. TIE has also formally invited the European Commission to play a part in this process which involves the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

Equally, TIE continues to cooperate with the European and Chinese authorities in the context of the "Memorandum of Understanding – Roadmap to Toy Safety" in providing education and training on EU toy safety standards in China.

TIE notes the Commission's proposals to introduce an interim measure regarding warning labels on toys containing magnets. Pending the adoption of a European standard, we support a balanced, proportionate and harmonized approach to raising awareness on this emerging issue.

Finally, TIE welcomes the Commission's efforts to undertake an inclusive fact-finding exercise in the area of the business supply chain. In this context, we are happy to provide our expertise and knowledge with the shared objective of providing consumers with the highest standards of quality and safety across the board.



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About TIE

TIE is an action group that promotes the value of toys and play in the psychological, physical and social development of children. It is the representative voice of the toy industry to EU stakeholders. TIE's membership consists of corporate members, national associations and affiliates. Amongst TIE's corporate members are Artsana, Bandai, Giochi Preziosi Group, Hasbro Europe, Hornby, the LEGO Group, Mattel Europe, Sorematec/Ferrero, VTECH Electronics Europe and Zapf Creation AG. TIE's national association members include the Asociación Española de Fabricantes de Juguetes (AEFJ), the Association of Danish Toy Manufacturers, Assogiocattoli, the British Toy & Hobby Association (BTHA), the Deutscher Verband der Spielwaren Industrie (DVSI), the Fédération Belge de Jouet, the Fédération Française des Industries Jouet-Puériculture (FJP), the Organisatie van Nederlandse Speelgoedleveranciers (ORNES) and the Swedish Toy Association.