

Two Steps Ahead of Regulation

Before ~ Now ~ And in the Future

As you are probably aware, public concern over the potential safety risks from toxic metal content in fashion jewelry reached a high point in recent years. This is particularly true for those items marketed to children and has resulted in recent legislation that has great impact for both businesses and consumers worldwide. The United States federal government under the Consumer Products Safety Commission, has enacted legislation that has immediate impact on lead content in jewelry marketed to “children”. Third party testing is required under the new federal legislation; details can be found through links in the Safety Compliance section at www.tierracast.com.

A combined summary of the new federal legislation and California law now requires:

Federal: As of August 2009, the lead content allowed in “children’s jewelry” (market to children under the age of 12 years) is limited to no greater than .03% (300 ppm). This federal standard is slated drop to 100 ppm on August 14, 2011, “if deemed technically feasible”.

California: As of March 1, 2008, any other electroplated metal jewelry component may not exceed a lead level of 10% (100,000 ppm), nor may any other unplated metal jewelry component exceed a lead level of 1.5% (15,000 ppm).

TierraCast® does not design or market its product to children, however the company is committed to quality and safety and currently requires its metal suppliers to provide Britannia alloy with certifications under 100 ppm lead content.

OUR COMPLIANCE CHECK LIST:

Metal Content Standards



Lead content not exceeding .03% in “children’s jewelry” – Federal Law.
-- *In effect August, 2009.*



Lead content not exceeding 10% in electroplated metal jewelry – California Law.
-- *In effect March 1, 2008.*



Lead content not exceeding 1.5% in unplated metal jewelry – California Law.
-- *In effect March 1, 2008*



Lead content not exceeding 6% in electroplated metal jewelry – California Law.
-- *In effect September 1, 2009.*

International Metal Content Standards



Lead content not exceeding .06% in “children’s jewelry”.



Leachable lead not exceeding 90mg/kg in “children’s jewelry”.



Compliance with the EU Nickel Directive for gold & silver plated parts.

Outside the United States, limits of potentially toxic metal content in jewelry is directed primarily toward “children’s jewelry” and are usually covered under toy safety standards. Most International standards, including those covering “children’s jewelry” in Canada, the European Union, Australia and New Zealand are based on either a limit of 600 ppm lead content or a limit of 90 mg/kg (90 ppm) of “leachable” lead. These standards are set in the **EU by BS EN 71-3:1995** – Safety of Toys (Part 3: **Migration of certain elements**) and duplicated in many other countries under the **ISO Standard 1824:3:1997**.

Once again, while TierraCast does not market its products to children, independent laboratory tests using the **EN71:3:1995** testing protocols confirm that TierraCast pewter components comply with this standard for a range of toxic metals that includes lead, antimony, arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, mercury and selenium.

TierraCast **silver and gold plated cast pewter components** also meet the EU Nickel Directive and comply with test limits set under **BS EN12472** and **BS EN 1811:1999** protocols. TierraCast copper and rhodium plated components do not currently comply with the Nickel Directive.

Additional information, links to primary governmental resources and .pdfs of test results can be found by following the Safety Compliance navigation buttons from the www.tierracast.com homepage.