



DOVER PUBLICATIONS, INC.

31 East Second Street, Mineola, NY 11501 • (516) 294-7000

To: Retailers of Dover Publications Products
From: Chris Kuppig, President, Dover Publications
Date: February 2, 2009
Re: Compliance with the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA)

At Dover, the safety of our products and the well-being of the children using them are of the utmost concern to us. Product safety has always been and continues to be one of our highest priorities. As you have probably heard, the CPSIA has changed the product safety requirements relating to lead and phthalates in children's products. We at Dover have taken steps to ensure that all of our children's products will continue to be in full compliance with the CPSIA and all other applicable law. Many of you have inquired about the CPSIA and requested that we provide information and assurances regarding our children's products. To that end, we are writing this letter to update you on the steps we have taken to date and to give you the assurances you need.

Dover Children's Books Are Safe

Virtually all of Dover's 4,000 children's products are books and are printed in the United States. These include familiar product lines such as: Dover Little Activity books, Dover Coloring books, Dover Paper Doll books, Dover Sticker & Tattoo books and, of course, Dover Thrift Editions.

For Dover's 60-year history we have relied on domestic manufacturers who comply with U.S. safety standards and regulations. In response to the CPSIA, in November of 2008, we ordered testing of our children's books and other printed material ("children's books"). We have tested representative samples from each of our children's book lines. Every book we tested met the standards set forth by the CPSIA for lead content, lead paint and phthalate content. Not only did our test results meet today's standards, but they also met the more stringent standards, which take effect on August 14, 2009.

In addition, we have reviewed documentation from our manufacturers of children's books and many other industry sources as to compliance with the new CPSIA standards for lead content, lead paint and phthalate content. All evidence we have reviewed indicates that the inks, paper, adhesives, laminates, coatings and other materials found in children's books contain either no lead or phthalates whatsoever or only minimal amounts far below the CPSIA limits.

Based on this evidence, we are confident that our children's books are safe.

We Are Testing Our Products that Contain Non-print Components

Dover also publishes a small number of children's products that, in addition to books or printed sheets, contain accessories such as crayons, magic markers and small toys ("non-print components"). Fewer than 100 Dover children's products include non-print components.

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Finance Fax: (516) 742-6953 • Sales Fax: (516) 742-5049

We have completed testing the majority of the non-print components of our children's products for compliance with the new CPSIA standards for lead content, lead paint and phthalate content. We have found only two items that do not meet the guidelines set by the CPSIA. The non-print components in question were contained in our *Nutcracker Fun Kit* and our *Cars and Trucks Fun Kit*. We notified all customers of record in November of our recall of those kits.

We expect to complete testing of our non-print components in February and will communicate with you again when that testing is complete. At that time we also expect to have the information necessary to evaluate compliance of non-print components with the more stringent CPSIA guidelines that take effect on August 14, 2009.

In an abundance of caution, we have placed any children's kits that are not fully tested into out-of-stock status as of February 3, 2009. All unshipped orders for these products will be placed into back-order status while we complete testing.

Going forward, we will test any non-print components in our children's products for compliance with the applicable CPSIA standards for lead and phthalate content.

General Conformity Certifications

On Friday, January 30, 2009, the Consumer Product Safety Commission announced a stay of the general conformity certification and testing requirements of the CPSIA for a period of one year. As a result, Dover does not expect to receive general conformity certifications from manufacturers for children's products manufactured after February 10, 2009. Nonetheless, we will continue to work internally and with our manufacturers to implement testing procedures so that you may have comfort that all of Dover's children's products meet the relevant CPSIA requirements.

Inventory

Even prior to the stay discussed above, domestic manufacturers and importers were not required, under the CPSIA, to provide general conformity certifications for products manufactured or imported prior to February 10, 2009. As such, we are not able to provide general conformity certifications for children's products that you may have in inventory. However, we have no reason to believe that any of the children's products we have sold to you fail to meet the CPSIA requirements that become effective February 10, 2009 (except the two kits noted above that were recalled in November).

Going Forward

We appreciate your patience and understanding as our industry adjusts to this new regulatory regime. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact our General Counsel, Rajeev Balakrishna, at 978-251-6238.