

Placing Toys on the UK Market from 1 January 2021

If the toys have been already placed on the UK market (or in an EU country) before 1 January 2021, such products are allowed to be continually sold in UK. Existing stock that have been fully manufactured and conformity marked can still be placed on the UK market on or after 1 January 2021 with existing markings and notified body numbers.

However, if the toys will be placed on the market on or after 1 January 2021, the following key changes should be considered / adopted accordingly.

PRODUCT MARKING REQUIREMENTS

	UK Importer Name and Address (1)	UKCA mark for toys (2)
1 Jan 2021 to 31 Dec 2021	For products importing to UK, UK based importer names and addresses must be available, but they can be shown in accompanying documents instead of on the products	UKCA mark should be available but CE mark can still be accepted in this period (3) It can be shown in accompanying documents instead of on the products
1 Jan 2022 to 31 Dec 2022		UKCA mark must be available It can be shown in accompanying documents instead of on the products
On or after 1 Jan 2023	For products importing to UK, UK based importer names and addresses must be available on the products	UKCA mark must be available and shown on the products

Notes

(1) Before Brexit, companies with non-UK based EU addresses can be accepted as importers for UK market (when the goods are moved from other EU countries to UK), but it will no longer be accepted beginning on 1 January 2021. UK businesses who used to act as "distributors" legally become "importers" if they place products from an EU country on the UK market. Importers have additional legal obligations which go beyond those of distributors, including checking that manufacturers have carried out the required conformity assessment procedures.





Rules for using the UKCA image:

- the letters forming the UKCA marking must be in defined proportion
- height at least 5mm
- easily visible, legible
- permanently attached to the product (from 1 January 2023)
- (3) However, if the toys are conformity assessed by a UK approved body, then the UKCA mark must be used.

EU TOYS SAFETY DIRECTIVE AND UK TOYS (SAFETY) REGULATIONS

The UK Toys (Safety) Regulations, which will be revised and become fully effective on 1 January 2021, is intended to be the same as the EU Toys Safety Directive 2009/48/EC. However, for certain published amendments of the EU Toys Safety Directive that will become effective in 2021, whether the UK regulations will follow and adopt the amendments, or when to do so, is still not confirmed up to this moment. This will inevitably fall into a monitoring issue for toys companies importing their products to UK.

HARMONIZED STANDARDS

After 31 December 2020, EU harmonized standards will become "Designated standards" in the UK and the list of such standards will be published by the Secretary of State. On 1 January 2021, the UK standards will be the same in substance as the standards used in the EU. However, they will use the prefix "BS" to indicate that they are standards adopted by the British Standards Institution (BSI) as the UK's national standards body.

Legal Disclaimer:

The content of this information is based on government documents (official guidelines and exit regulations) published up to 16 November 2020. Legal situation may still be adapted until 1 January 2021 and later on. Companies should therefore always consult latest version of guidance's and regulations including seeking further help from authorities before taking significant steps.

Enquiry

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