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## BSI response to BIS Retail and Manufacturing Consultation

The British Standards Institution has considered with interest the 2012 Retail and Manufacturing Consultation and we have forwarded it to our relevant standardization committees to gather experts' views.

I would like to submit the following comments on the proposal to repeal the Imitation Dummies (Safety) Regulations 1993. These comments come from our Committees CW/1 and CW/1/4 as well as our Consumer and Public Interest Network (CPIN).

Our committees and CPIN are of the view that the situation with the Imitation Dummies (Safety) Regulations differs significantly from that of many of the other regulations proposed for removal in this consultation as the existing standard on babies' dummies is not designed to cover the risks posed by products that resemble dummies.

Removing the regulations will permit imitation dummies to be supplied in UK. This is in line with other EU Member States and our CPIN is aware that imitation dummies are on the market in other Member States. Following the removal of the regulations, imitation dummies would be subject to the general safety requirement contained in the General Product Safety Regulations. The references of BS EN 1400-1, -2 and -3 (versions from 2002) *Child use and care articles – Soothers for babies and young children* have been published in the EU's Official Journal and therefore compliance with these standards would provide a presumption of conformity with the UK GPSR for relevant risks.

However, the BS EN 1400 standards are not designed to cover the risks posed to consumers, especially children, by novelty products that resemble dummies. BS EN 1400-1 refers to warnings on products that resemble soothers in its informative annex on medical devices but does not address safety risks. This standard is currently under revision by the relevant European Standardization Organization (CEN) technical committee.

**Our committees and CPIN are therefore of the opinion that the Imitation Dummies (Safety) Regulations 1993 should be maintained at least until such time as the revised BS EN 1400, or another standard, covers the safety risks of novelty products resembling dummies.** We note that the revision of this standard to cover the risks posed by imitation dummies would require further input to the standardization process and would take additional time.



### **Background on BSI**

BSI is the UK's National Standards Body, incorporated by Royal Charter and responsible independently for preparing British Standards and related publications. BSI has 111 years of experience in serving the interest of a wide range of stakeholders including government, business and society.

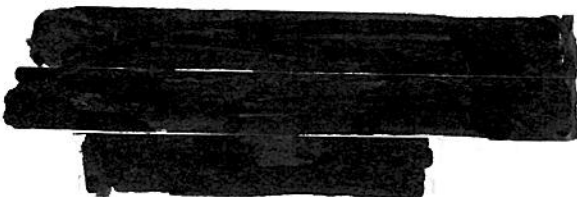
BSI presents the UK view on standards in Europe (to CEN and CENELEC) and internationally (to ISO and IEC). BSI has a globally recognized reputation for independence, integrity and innovation ensuring standards are useful, relevant and authoritative.

A BSI (as well as CEN/CENELEC, ISO/IEC) standard is a document defining best practice, established by consensus. Each standard is kept current through a process of maintenance and reviewed whereby it is updated, revised or withdrawn as necessary.

Standards are designed to set out clear and unambiguous provisions and objectives. Although standards are voluntary and separate from legal and regulatory systems, they can be used to support or complement legislation.

Standards are developed when there is a defined market need through consultation with stakeholders and a rigorous development process. National committee members represent their communities in order to develop standards and related documents by consensus. They include representatives from a range of bodies, including government, business, consumers, academic institutions, social interests, regulators and trade unions.

Yours faithfully,

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