

# Update on Health Canada Activities

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

ICPHSO 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Training Symposium

Bethesda, Maryland





## MOU with CPSC

- Regularly scheduled teleconferences encourages the exchange of information on issues
- Direct contact between technical staff, including lab staff
- Reports on specific non-complying product:
  - where it contravenes Canadian requirements
  - where the product is originating from the US or is known to also be distributed in the US
  - where we believe it also contravenes US requirements or would otherwise be a safety issue (e.g., counterfeit product)





## Recall Follow Up

- Health Canada monitors CPSC recall announcements, Canadian newswire services and company websites
- Investigation to determine if the product was sold in Canada
- Determination of applicability and effectiveness of the recall in Canada
- Recall monitoring, as appropriate
- Publication on HC website and public warning, as necessary





## Advice on Reporting/Recalling in Canada

- Product defects and recalls receive a high level of media attention in Canada
- Companies are expected to develop the corrective action plan for Canada in parallel
- High Priority: children's products, high degree of hazard, products widely distributed to the consumer in Canada
- [www.healthcanada.gc.ca/cps-industry](http://www.healthcanada.gc.ca/cps-industry)
  - Recalling Consumer Products - A Guide For Industry
  - Guides to the regulations for various product categories
  - Product Safety Offices contact information





## Blind and Curtain Cords

- Regulatory development
- Partnering with industry to disseminate message
- Resources for NGOs, education and public health professionals
- Large amount of material developed that is directed at consumers: advisories, flyers/posters, instructional video, window clings





## Lead Risk Reduction Strategy

- Phased approach to regulation development focusing on limiting lead exposure risks to children associated from use or interaction with consumer products:
  - products likely to be placed in the mouth,
  - consolidated foodware regulations
  - products intended for children
  - other products to which children are likely to be exposed
- Total or migratable lead content limits
- On-going consultation with affected parties





## Other Initiatives:

- Baby bath seats
- Candles - lead core wicks and labelling
- Review of open-flame standard for mattresses
- Miscellaneous regulatory updates
- Health Canada Legislative Renewal
- Working towards implementation of GHS in consumer and workplace chemicals sectors





## Other Initiatives (cont'd):

- Update to guidelines for children's sleepwear
- Sale of matches and lighters to young persons
- Product Safety messaging to ethnic communities
- Increased inspections at customs, remote communities, second-hand products



