

Testing Bisphenol A in Textiles & Apparel

Mitigate the potentially adverse health risks of BPA



What is Bisphenol A?

Bisphenol A, also widely known as BPA, is a chemical that is mainly used with a combination of other chemicals in the manufacture of plastics and resins and can be found in household items. This includes food contact materials such as reusable water bottles and as a protective coating in metal-based food and beverage cans to prevent corrosion.

However, recent news reports have shown high levels of BPA to be found in textile and apparel products made with polyester and spandex fibre content, including sport bras, athletic shirts, and socks.

Potential risks of Bisphenol A in textiles

Studies have shown that BPA can be absorbed through skin and end up in the bloodstream, so its presence in clothing items such as sports bras and athletic shirts is a notable concern.

In adults, research has shown a possible link between exposure to BPA and diabetes, heart disease, increased blood pressure, cancer, obesity and erectile dysfunction.

Exposure to BPA may also cause possible health effects on the brain and prostate gland of fetuses, infants and children.

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Why carry out Bisphenol A testing?

Governments worldwide have already taken actions to restrict or limit the use of BPA in consumer products, with both the FDA and the EU banning the use of BPA in baby bottles, a migration limit requirement in the EU Toy Safety Directive, and a limit on the maximum allowable dose level for Bisphenol A under California Proposition 65.

BPA is also present on the substances of very high concern (SVHC) candidate list and has been restricted as a substance on its own and in mixtures intended for consumer use under EU REACH regulations since March 2018.

With rising concern on the safety of BPA and more studies to find out its effects on human health, it is expected that governments will amend regulations to extend to textile and apparel products in the near future.

How can we help?

The Eurofins Softlines & Leather network of laboratories provide identification of Bisphenol A under our Chemical Testing services. Our service portfolio covers test of yarns, fabrics, garments and leather articles, from raw materials to finished products.

We are also capable of conducting chemical tests include REACH Annex XVII, allergenic & carcinogenic dyestuff, APEO, azo-dyes, and cover different market regulations or standards such as EU REACH Annex XVII, EU REACH SVHC, California Prop 65, GB Testing, AFIRM.

Our Toxicological Risk Assessments (TRA) service can help you to evaluate the hazard or inherent toxicity of chemical ingredients, supported by a board-certified team of toxicologists with extensive experience in the field of toxicological risk assessment.

Find out more about our **Chemical Testing** services.