



CONEG Model Toxics Legislation is aimed at banning the use of lead, mercury, cadmium and hexavalent chromium in packaging, packaging materials, components and packaging inks used or sold within states which enact such legislation. CONEG model legislation provides that as soon as feasible, but not later than two years after the legislation is adopted, no manufacturer or distributor may offer for sale or promotional purposes any package or packaging component, including printing inks used in packaging, ("package") that includes any lead, cadmium, mercury or hexavalent chromium which is intentionally introduced as an element. The legislation is aimed at metals intentionally

introduced to a package rather than metals which are incidentally present in the package

Package and packaging components covered by the Model Legislation includes all materials such as packaging films, decorative foils, laminates, packaging resins, containers, labels, inks, colorants, paints, dyes, adhesives, decorative glass and other related materials. Though less than half of the states have adopted CONEG-inspired toxics legislation, the number of states that have toxics legislation is large enough to affect the nationwide distribution of packaging. Moreover, several of the states that have toxics legislation are large and significantly influence practices elsewhere. Consequently, all manufacturers of packaging, packaging materials, components and inks should be aware of CONEG requirements.

Our Services and Capabilities

Quantex Laboratories provides reliable comprehensive testing capabilities for elemental and trace/heavy metals analysis. We have extensive experience and expertise in providing analytical testing in support of a broad range of mandated legislative and regulatory requirements. We routinely provide manufactures of package and packaging components analytical testing services in support of compliance with CONEG. Our laboratories have the expertise and capabilities to analyze a diverse range of sample types, matrices and detection. Instrumental capabilities include inductively coupled plasma (ICP), flame atomic absorption (FAAS), graphite furnace atomic absorption (GFAAS) and cold vapor atomic absorption for the analysis of mercury. Whether the product is a raw material, intermediate or finished product, these capabilities allow our scientists to measure and analyze measure and analyze for the presence of heavy metals from percent levels down to trace levels in the parts-per billion range. Of special note to manufacturers of packaging inks and colorants is that Quantex is one of the few contract analytical service companies having extensive experience in the analysis of inks, colorants and dyes as recommended in NPIRI Bulletin No.96-63.

Other Capabilities

We also have extensive experience in determining the presence and levels of lead and other heavy metals for consumer products, candle wicks, toys, tableware, art supplies, inks, paints and colorants. Many of these products must comply with such Consumer Product Safety Commission (CSPS) regulations as 16CFR1303 and ASTM F963 and the Labeling Hazardous Art Materials Act (LHAMA). In addition, we also can analyze for cadmium, chromium, hexavalent chromium, lead and mercury as required under the EU RoHS and WEEE Directives

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