



The latest trends, services & promotions

KEMI publishes **Annual Report** on Toxic Hazards in Household Tech



In May 2026, the Swedish Chemicals Agency (Kemi) published its annual market surveillance report on its inspections focusing on home electronics sourced from dozens of different companies.

The primary objective of these background investigations is to monitor compliance with vital environmental and product safety mandates, specifically looking at the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) Directive, the REACH regulation, and the POPs regulation. Focusing surveillance on inexpensive consumer items allows regulators to test compliance with environmental laws aimed at reducing human and ecological exposure to dangerous chemicals.

Key Findings

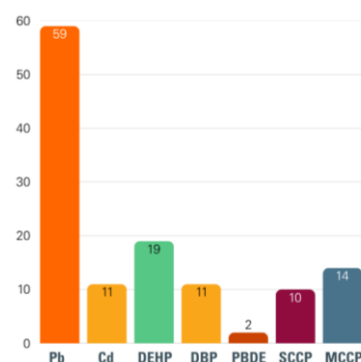
Chemical-Related:

1. Out of the 209 inspected products, 63 (30%) contained excessive levels of prohibited chemical substances
2. Lead was primarily found in solders inside the products and in some cases, also in the plastic on the cable
3. These SCCPs and phthalates were typically found in soft plastic materials, most commonly in the plastic on cables
4. Additionally, excessive levels of cadmium and excessive levels of the flame retardant PBDE in hard plastics

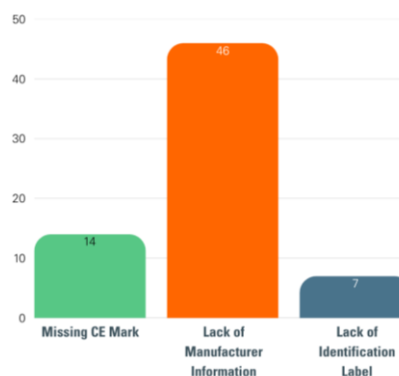
Product Labeling Related

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Top Restricted Substances Found



Products with Labeling Defects



What's next?

Upon discovering the deficiencies, most non-compliant companies chose to take voluntary action by withdrawing the non-compliant products and stopping their sales.

- This project resulted in 17 reports of suspected environmental crimes and 14 environmental penalty decisions.
- All products found to contain excessive prohibited substances were reported to the EU's Safety Gate and the Information and Communication System on Market Surveillance (ICSMS).
- The report emphasized that while these excessive substances do not pose an acute immediate risk to users, they contribute to the total everyday exposure to substances hazardous to health and the environment, which may lead to long-term negative effects.
- Since the inspection results show that there are still many electronic products containing prohibited substances on the market, the authorities will continue to conduct risk-based supervision targeting low-cost electronics, which have a known high deficiency rate.

How SGS Helps Manufacturers Ensure Compliance

SGS offers comprehensive, end-to-end chemical and material testing services to help manufacturers, distributors, and suppliers navigate complex international regulations. Whether you are a manufacturer, distributor or supplier, we will support you in bringing safe, compliant products to market faster – while building trust with consumers.

Our holistic services include:

1. **Restricted Substance Testing:** Rigorous screening and analysis for compliance with EU RoHS, REACH, POPs, and other global chemical restrictions.
2. **Supply Chain & Technical Support:** Tailored compliance strategies, supplier validations, and technical assistance to address administrative and labelling requirements.
3. **Digital Data Management:** Secure, 24/7 access to test results and reporting tools via platforms like [RSTS Cloud](#) to ensure seamless quality control across your supply chain.

Partnering with [SGS](#) ensures your carbon claims transition from marketing assertions into verified, market-compliant data.

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