



# Toys: Spotlight on GCC Member States

**UNDERSTAND THE REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER THE MARKETS OF BAHRAIN, KUWAIT, OMAN, QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

**Trusted means *Tested.***



# PARTNER WITH SGS TO MEET GCC REQUIREMENTS FOR TOYS

## GCC TOY SCOPE & EXEMPTIONS

The GCC Technical Regulation defines a toy as an item “designed or intended, whether or not exclusively, for use in play by children under 14 years of age.” This means that aside from the exempted products listed below and in Technical Regulation BD-131704-01, all toys designed for children under 14 to use in play must comply. Exempted products include:

- Automatic playing machines, whether coin operated or not, intended for public use
- Playground equipment intended for public use
- Slings and catapults Toy steam engines
- Toy vehicles equipped with combustion engines

The latest EN toy safety standards can be used to demonstrate compliance with BD-131704-01.

The instructions, safety information, warnings and labeling must be in Arabic.

## GCC TECHNICAL REGULATION

The GCC Technical Regulation on Children’s Toys has been designed and implemented to ensure a high level of protection of the health and safety of consumers and to establish a legislative framework for any toy placed on the market. The essential safety requirements under Regulation BD- 131704-01 are:

- General Product Safety Regulation (BD-091005-04)
- Physical and mechanical properties Flammability
- Chemicals:
  - 19 soluble elements
  - Allergenic fragrances
  - CMR substances (carcinogenic, mutagenic or reprotoxic)
  - N-Nitrosamines
  - N-nitrosatable substances
  - Phthalates
- Electrical, hygiene and radioactivity properties

## SAFETY ASSESSMENT

Before placing a toy on the market, the manufacturer shall carry out a safety assessment on the hazards (chemical, physical & mechanical, electrical, flammability etc.) that the toy may present, as well as an assessment of the potential exposure to such hazards.

## TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION

Each toy requires a technical documentation. This will establish the applicable requirements as well as the assessment, design, manufacture and operation of the toy. It should contain at least:

- A general description of the toy
- A detailed description, with conceptual design and manufacturing drawings, including list of components and materials (e.g. bill of materials (BOM) and/or bill of substances (BOS))
- Safety data sheets (SDS) for the chemicals used
- Safety assessments
- Test reports
- Declaration of conformity (DOC)
- GC-Type Examination Certificate, if any

Toys destined for sale and/or distribution in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Member States – Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates – must conform to the GCC Technical Regulation on Children’s Toys (BD-131704-01) and display the GCC conformity mark, the G-mark. The regulation came into force in two phases: January 1, 2014 for non-chemicals and July 15, 2015 for chemicals. Partner with SGS to bring toys to the GCC market with confidence.

## ECONOMIC OPERATORS

The GCC Regulation includes obligations for manufacturers, authorized representatives, importers who are linked to the manufacturer, importers who are unlinked to the manufacturer, and distributors. An importer or distributor would be considered as a manufacturer.

Gulf Conformity Tracking Symbol (GCTS): A symbol provided by the GCTS consisting of the Gulf Conformity Mark and a QR code. This symbol is generated by the GSO Certificate Tracking System.

If it places a toy on the market under its own name or trademark, or modifies a toy in a manner that complies with the applicable requirements. The obligations of each economic operator are detailed in Table 1.



Gulf Conformity Mark (G-mark)



QR code



# Toy Robot. *Tested*

Manufacturers play a very important role in ensuring that the toy is safe and complies with the requirements under GSO scheme.

SGS laboratories in Dubai, Hong Kong and Shenzhen are notified bodies under GSO scheme.

**TABLE 1**

OBLIGATIONS OF ECONOMIC OPERATORS UNDER GCC TECHNICAL REGULATION ON CHILDREN'S TOYS BD-131704-01 (TABLE 1)	MANUFACTURER	AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	IMPORTER LINKED TO MANUFACTURER	IMPORTER UNLINKED TO MANUFACTURER	DISTRIBUTOR
		A person who manufactures a toy or has a toy designed or manufactured, and markets that toy under their name or trademark.	A person established within the Community who has received a written mandate from a manufacturer to act on its behalf in relation to specific tasks.	A person established within the Community who places a toy from a third country on the Community market.  'Linked to the manufacturer' means they have direct access to the manufacturer.	'Unlinked to the manufacturer' means they do not have direct access to the manufacturer. (e.g. trader)
<b>CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE (CAP) AND SAFETY ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>Carry out</b> CAP and conduct safety assessment of the toy (physical, chemical, etc.)	No obligation.	<b>Ensure</b> CAP and safety assessment have been carried out by the manufacturer.	<b>Carry Out</b> an importer CAP. The chosen Notified Body will carry out CAP and issue certificate of conformity (COC) for a compliant toy.	<b>Verify</b> CAP.
<b>TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION</b>	<b>Draw up</b> and keep for 10 years after toy has been placed on the market.	<b>Keep only.</b>	<b>Ensure</b> the technical documentation has been drawn up by the manufacturer.	<b>Establish.</b>	<b>Verify</b> the information.
<b>INDICATE ECONOMIC OPERATOR'S NAME, REGISTERED TRADE NAME / MARK AND CONTACT DETAILS</b>	<b>Yes, indicate.</b>	No specific obligation (dependent on written mandate with manufacturer.)	<b>Yes, indicate.</b>	<b>Yes, indicate.</b>	<b>Verify</b> the information.
<b>ENSURE TOY HAS IDENTIFICATION AND IS ACCOMPANIED BY INSTRUCTIONS AND SAFETY INFORMATION IN ARABIC</b>	<b>Yes, indicate.</b>	No specific obligation (dependent on written mandate with manufacturer.)	<b>Yes, ensure.</b>	<b>Yes, ensure.</b>	<b>Verify</b> the information.
<b>DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY (DOC)</b>	<b>Draw up</b> manufacturer DOC.	<b>Keep</b> the manufacturer DOC.	<b>Keep</b> a copy of the GC declaration of conformity		<b>Verify</b> DOC.
<b>GCTS</b>	<b>Affix</b> GCTS on compliant toy/ packaging.	No obligation.	<b>Ensure</b> GCTS is affixed on compliant toy/ packaging.	<b>Affix</b> GCTS on compliant toy/ packaging (under Notified Body control).	<b>Verify</b> GCTS.

## GULF CONFORMITY MARK (G-MARK)

The G-Mark testifies compliance with GCC-wide safety and health regulations for toys. On successful completion of the assessment and certification process, toys must display the G-Mark:

- On the toy itself, or its packaging
- Affixed in a clear, legible, permanent and inerasable manner
- At a minimum height of 5 mm

Only toys demonstrating compliance to Technical Regulation BD-131704-01 qualify to display the G-Mark.

## WARNING REQUIREMENTS

All toys must display relevant warnings and instructions in Arabic. To ensure clarity for consumers, these messages must not conflict with the toy's intended use. Warnings that determine a purchasing decision, such as those specifying the minimum and maximum age for users, must appear on the packaging or otherwise be clearly visible to the consumer before purchase. The GCC standards are broadly in line with the requirements of the European Toy Safety Directive 2009/48/EC and EN 71 standards.

To support GCC compliance, our experts can review existing labels and advise on the applicable Arabic language to be added. In addition, we advise clients on the need to translate instruction manuals, warning statements and any other information required by BD-131704-01.

## GULF CONFORMITY CERTIFICATE (GC CERTIFICATE)

This is the stage of the conformity assessment procedure in which the chosen Notified Body, as required, examines the technical design of a toy and verifies and attests that its technical design meets the requirements of the GCC Technical Regulation on Children's Toys. On successful completion of the type examination, a toy will receive a Gulf Conformity Certificate.

SGS toy safety experts, based in the UAE and around the world, can advise toy manufacturers during product development, technical documentation review and conformity assessment stages on whether the toy is likely to comply with the GCC regulation and any remedial actions that may be required.

## WHY CHOOSE SGS?

Our expertise in compliance management will help you make the right choices to access the GCC markets, while carrying out the necessary testing and certification quickly and professionally. SGS offers a one-stop solution for full compliance with GCC Technical Regulation on Children's Toys (BD-131704-01):

### GENERAL

- Helping you to understand your obligations
- Coordinate/liaise with authorities in GCC states

### TESTING & SAFETY ASSESSMENT

- Testing and certification in China (Notified Bodies)
- Testing in SGS toy labs (if Notified Body is not required)
- Reviewing/validating existing test reports
- Conducting toy safety assessment (physical, chemical, etc.)

### TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION

- Reviewing the technical documentation with data provided by the client
- Reviewing the Declaration of Conformity (DOC)
- Preparing the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) if needed
- Issuing the Certificate of Conformity (COC) (Notified Bodies)

### LABELLING

- Reviewing labels and markings in Arabic
- Translating documents from English to Arabic

We offer competitive advantages, such as accreditations:

- SGS Gulf Limited has been appointed as a Notified Body under number NB 0003
- SGS Hong Kong Ltd has been appointed as a Notified Body under number NB 0008. The lab is also ISO/IEC accredited for toy testing
- SGS-CSTC Standards Technical Services Co, Ltd Shenzhen has been appointed as a Notified Body under number NB 0042. The lab is also ISO/IEC accredited for toy testing.

Independent and innovative, our toy experts use state-of-the-art facilities and technology to deliver tailor made added value services that help improve your business.

### CONTACT US

For further information, please contact:

✉ [consumer.products@sgs.com](mailto:consumer.products@sgs.com)

🌐 [www.sgs.com/toys](http://www.sgs.com/toys)

in [SGS Connectivity & Products](#)

WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

SGS