



# WELL-INFORMED CIRCLES

## JEWELLERY

### NICKEL IS DANGEROUS!

According to the chemical registrations of nickel it may cause cancer, cause damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure, may cause an allergic skin reaction, may cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled and is harmful to aquatic life.

Nickel is therefore restricted in legislation like the toys safety directive, cosmetics regulation, food contact materials regulations and REACH.

On 15 January 2016 an [Official Journal](#) was published with harmonised standards for restricted substances listed in REACH Annex XVII. In this case specifically for entry 27 of Annex XVII: Nickel.

There are three harmonised standards with test methods to determine the release of nickel from products:

- EN 1811:2011+A1:2015: release of nickel from products which are inserted into pierced parts of the human body and articles intended to come into direct and prolonged contact with the skin.
- EN 12472:2005+A1:2009: simulation of wear and corrosion for the detection of nickel release from coated items.
- EN 16128:2011: release of nickel from spectacle frames and sunglasses, parts that come into contact with the skin.

The restrictions of nickel as mentioned in Annex XVII of the REACH Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 concern the following large groups of products:

- Articles which are inserted into pierced ears and other pierced parts of the human body.
- Articles intended to come into 'direct and prolonged contact' with the skin such as: earrings, necklaces, bracelets and chains, anklets, finger rings, wrist-watch cases, watch straps and tighteners (jewellery), rivet buttons, tighteners, rivets, zippers and metal marks, when these are used in garments (clothing).

## FASHION

### RECALLS

Some illustrative examples of products that have been recalled from the market because they released a too high level of nickel:

#### JEWELLERY



#### FASHION



#### KIDS



#### STATIONERY



#### TATTOO, MAKE-UP



ProductIP provides information that enables the supply chain to market safe, healthy and environmentally friendly products from a sustainable source.

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