

## ESSCO Safety Check Press References & Relevant Correspondence

### Media

February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Handmade Toy Alliance

<http://handmadetoyalliance.blogspot.com/2010/02/allowing-xrf-testing-for-cpsia.html>

#### **“Allowing XRF Testing for CPSIA Compliance Could Save \$3.7 Billion and Save Small Businesses”**

*The following was written by Seth Goldberg, President of [Essco Safety Check](#), a product safety firm based in Redmond, WA. Seth has calculated the potential savings of using XRF scanning technology instead of the destructive chemical dissolution tests mandated by the CPSIA. In particular, he finds that small businesses would save tremendously with no erosion of product safety. The Handmade Toy Alliance believes that this approach would be a tremendous help to small businesses struggling to comply with the testing requirements of the CPSIA.*

January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Healthy Stuff.org – Jeff Gearhart

<http://blog.healthystuff.org/2010/01/25/the-potential-economic-impact-of-the-consumer-product-safety-improvement-act/>

#### **“The potential economic impact of the consumer product safety improvement act”**

***Our friends at Essco Safety Check in Redmond, Washington** started a business doing product screening with the XRF in December of 2007. Since then they have performed tens of thousands of tests all across the country for a wide range of businesses. They know as well as anybody the everyday realities of product testing. Last Friday, January 22nd, they posted a blog discussing some of the economics of testing which is required under CPSIA versus product screening with the XRF. Visit the [Essco Safety Check blog](#).*

January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Connie Thompson – Reporter - KOMO News 4 – ABC Seattle

<http://www.komonews.com/news/consumer/81615067.html?tab=video>

#### **“Local testing company helps expose toxic metals in children’s products”**

*The federal crackdown on lead in toys is creating a new toxic monster called cadmium, and we can thank a local company for helping expose the growing danger. **The small testing company in Redmond** is finding that even with the lead crackdown, toxic toys are being sold every day.*

January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Justin Pritchard – Associated Press Writer – Los Angeles

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wirestory?id=9525865&page=1>

#### **“AP IMPACT: Toxic Metal in Kids’ Jewelry from China”**

*Barred from using lead in children’s jewelry because of its toxicity, some Chinese manufacturers have been substituting the more dangerous heavy metal cadmium in sparkling charm bracelets and shiny pendants being sold throughout the United States, an Associated Press investigation shows... Much of the increase found by the Michigan-based HealthyStuff.org came in toys with polyvinyl chloride plastic, according to Jeff Gearhart, the group’s research director. Both lead and cadmium can be used to fortify PVC against the sun’s rays. Data collected by a Washington-based company called **Essco Safety Check** led its president, **Seth Goldberg**, to suspect that substitution of cadmium for lead partly explains the increase he’s seen.*

July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008 Connie Thompson – Reporter - KOMO News 4 – ABC Seattle

<http://www.komonews.com/news/26168844.html>

#### **“Local company helps get toxic toys of the market”**

*SEATTLE -- The U.S. House just approved a ban that could turn toy makers on their ears. The proposed toxic toy bill targets the Consumer Product Safety Commission, as well as the people who make the toys, and a small business in Bellevue is doing its part to turn up the heat. **One item at a time, Seth Goldberg and his small start-up company** are helping families and businesses pinpoint the toxic chemicals lurking in toys and other products. They launched the company last December.*

December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Connie Thompson – Reporter - KOMO News 4 – ABC Seattle

<http://www.komonews.com/news/consumer/12493876.html>

#### **“Local company offer free lead testing”**

*How much would you pay to have someone to come to your house to test toys and other products for lead and toxic chemicals?*

*A local company says if no one else will tell you what’s in the products in your home, they’ll do it for you.*

**EMAIL CORRESPONDANCE:**

July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008 **(CPSC – Recall we were involved in)**

Mr. Goldberg,

I wanted to let you know that there was a recall on one of the products that you had tested at a retailer and provided information to CPSC. The recall is listed below concerning Bead Bazaar and their children's jewelry.

We are continuing to investigate the other products for which you provided information. I'll try to keep you informed of any other recalls. If you do not already receive e-mails regarding CPSC recalls, you can sign up for free at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).

Thank you.

gene

Eugene E. Staebell,  
Supervisory Investigator

February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 from **Senator Murray (WA-D)**

Dear Mr. Goldberg:

Thank you for contacting me regarding H.R. 4040, the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008, sponsored by Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL-1), which became public law on August 14, 2008. I appreciate hearing from you about this important issue.

As you know, the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) strengthened safety regulations on children's products, particularly regarding the amount of lead and certain phthalates they are allowed to contain. ... As we move forward in the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, I will closely monitor this situation and be in touch with the CPSC regarding the feedback you provided and concerns from businesses about the new regulations. I share your concerns that these regulations could put hard-working business owners out of business, and I will continue to talk to the CPSC and my Senate colleagues about your concerns. Thank you for contacting me, and please feel free to contact me again in the future.

I hope all is well in Redmond.

Sincerely,

Patty Murray

United States Senator

November 2nd, 2009 **John McPhee, New Mexico Department of Health**

Very interesting stuff, Seth, and a wonderful contribution to public health in a realm that the public is only beginning to grasp.....have you contacted the Consumer Product Safety Commission regarding your testing services?

January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 **U.S. China Commission**

Was contacted by J.R. Warner a researcher with the US China Commission and asked questions about heavy metals in children's products

July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008 **Children's Product Safety Act (CPSA) Advisory Committee Meeting for WA State**

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/rules/ruleChildrenAdvise.html>

Seth and Arin Goldberg founded ESSCO just over a year ago, originally to provide onsite XRF testing for residential customers. Since then they have expanded their focus to include commercial customers as well. In addition to running a basic test, they have developed a software program that evaluates the results and produces reports of their findings.

In 2008 & 2009 and once again in 2010, we have participated and will participate in Washington Autism Day – it takes place in August at the Carnation Farm

<http://www.autismdaywa.com/>

**Interviewed by**

*AP, ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX for radio, television, print (newspapers) and videos.*

**Contacted by:** *A variety of government agencies asking for information about our findings.*

**ESSCO Safety Check, Seth Goldberg, Pres. 425-749-4136**