

**Toolkit for establishing  
laws to eliminate  
lead paint**

2021 Update

**Policy to Eliminate  
Lead in Paint:  
Lessons Learned  
in Israel**

Module F-2



**Global Alliance to  
Eliminate Lead Paint**

# Regulatory Status of Eliminating Lead in Paint in Israel

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Before Joining the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint in 2016:

- Lead restricted in paint used in toys (SI 562 part 3 “Safety Of Toys: Migration Of Certain Chemical Elements”) and furniture for children (SI 682 part 2, “Children's Cots And Folding Cots For Domestic Use”)
- Mandatory Standard No. 1343 Paints and Varnishes – General Requirements required labelling of paints with lead content above 0.15% (1500 ppm)
- Spray paints exempt from labelling requirement
- Many residential paints complied with voluntary requirements of “Green Label” (0.01% maximum content for all heavy metals)

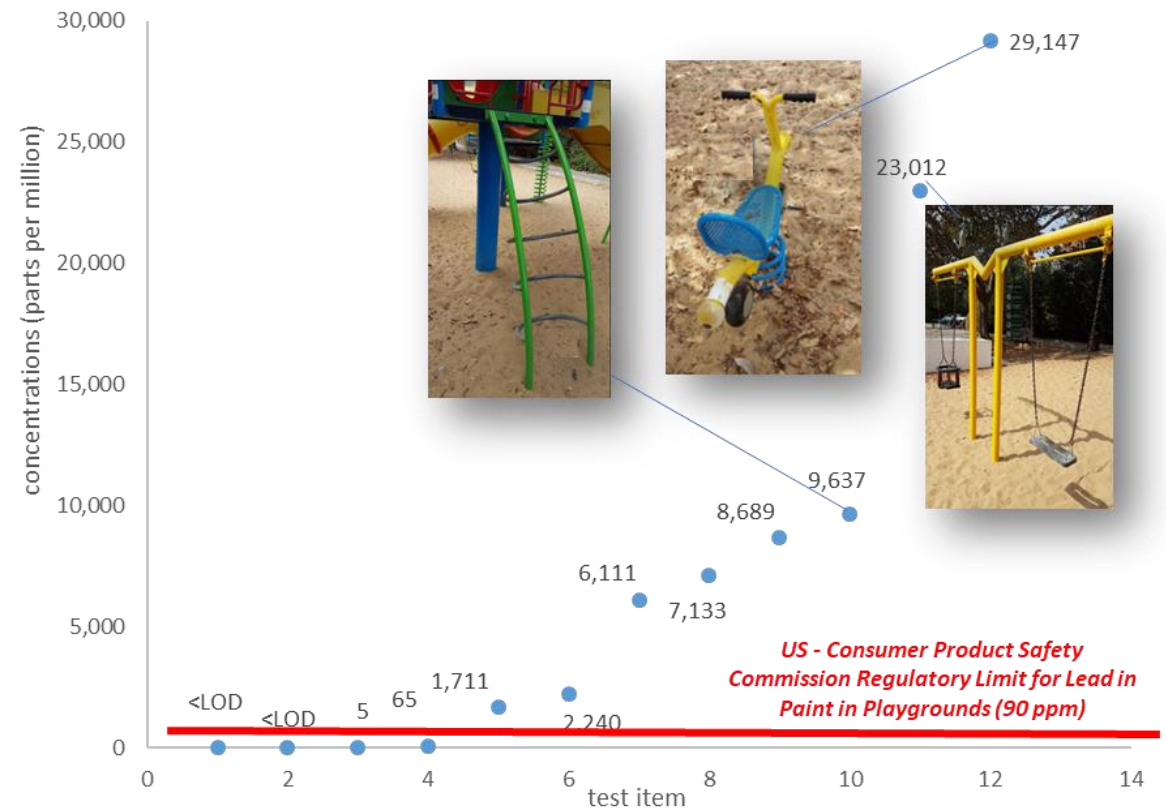
# Driving Factors - Actions on Lead Paint

- Ministry of Health from Israel joined the Global Alliance in 2016
- Part of broader approach at Ministry of Health in recent years to reduce potential sources of exposure to lead in consumer products and drinking water
- Ministries of Health and Economics elected to conduct screening-level tests of lead in paint and painted surfaces

# Collecting Data on Lead in Painted Surfaces

- Lead levels exceeding 90 ppm in 22 / 25 painted surfaces in playgrounds
- We suspected that industrial paints were being used to paint these surfaces

Lead Concentrations in Painted Playground Surfaces:  
Results of a Pilot Study in Israel



Study was funded by the Environment and Health Fund in Jerusalem; full study available [here](#)

# Collecting Data on Lead in Paints

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- We sampled 8 solvent-based paints: none had lead levels above 90 ppm
- We sampled 6 spray paints (red, yellow, orange, green): 3 out of 6 had lead levels above 90 ppm, maximum level was 1200 ppm
- Ministry of Economy tested paint on the market in 2018: 1 (out of 3 tested) had 2.5% lead by weight, product was marketed for outdoor and indoor use

*Study was funded by the Environment and Health Fund in Jerusalem; full study available [here](#)*

# Process that Resulted in Adopting a New Standard That Limit Lead in All Types of Paint

- Ministry of Health initiated meetings with paint manufacturers in Israel to present results
- In June 2018, the US Embassy in Tel Aviv organized a Roundtable Discussion on Lead in Paint
- Following that discussion, the technical committee at the Standards Institution voted unanimously to restrict lead concentration **in all types of paint** including industrial and spray paints

# New Standard in Israel on Paint – SI 1343

- Standard is mandatory – legally binding
- Includes general requirements for paints and varnishes (**no exemptions** for spray paints or industrial paints) on...
  - Lead content has to be below 90 ppm, using testing procedure ASTM F2853-10 or CPSC-CH-E1003-09 (X-ray fluorescence spectrometry or Inductively Coupled Plasma spectroscopy)
    - Between May 2019 – January 2021 – both the old and the new standards were in force; beginning January 2021 only the new standard is in force
      - Mandatory batch testing combined with importer declaration starting from beginning May 2021

# Comparison of Previous and Updated Standard on Paint – SI 1343

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	Previous	Updated
Lead content restriction	No	Yes (90 ppm)
Labeling requirement for lead paints	Yes	No
Exempted paints	Spray paint	None



# Contributors to Success in Approving New Standard

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- Framing local effort as part of broad **international** effort (Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint)
- **Data** indicating that industrial paints containing lead are being used in areas which have potential exposure for children
- Open **dialogue** between government and representatives from industry and importers; roundtable discussion prior to formal Standards Institution meeting
- Regulatory **flexibility** – long phase out period (2 years), product testing combined with importer declarations on conformity of product to standard requirements

# Evaluation of Impacts – Follow-up With Manufacturers and Importers April 2021

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## **Paint Manufacturers**

- “Phase out period was too short”
- “Getting lead out of paints expensive process”
- “We invested much time and effort in finding the right alternatives to produce certain color shades”
- “We do our own lead testing when importing from non-EU countries”

## **Importers / Chamber of Commerce**

- Efforts to increase awareness among importers
- Possible that importers not associated with Chamber of Commerce unaware of new standard
- Follow up on impacts after testing required (at import points) beginning May 2021

# Lessons Learned - Experience in Israel

## Identify the problem using testing

*For Israel: Imported spray paints, industrial paints used in urban settings such as playgrounds*

## Identify the appropriate regulatory tool to solve the problem

*For Israel: Mandatory standard*

## Engage stakeholders

*For Israel: Visits to manufacturing sites, engaging general public (press release) local physicians and academics, roundtable discussion*

## Continued Vigilance – Awareness Raising and Enforcement

*For Israel: Long process makes this challenging. Follow up spray paint testing in 2021; ongoing contact with Ministry of Economy regarding testing results*

# Thank You

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- Chuck Ashley from the US Embassy in Tel Aviv for organizing the Roundtable Discussion on Lead in Paint
- Angela Bandemehr, Evonne Marzouk, and Ellie Mccann from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for support in developing the new standard
- Joanna Tempowski from the World Health Organization for helpful information regarding policies to eliminate lead in paint
- Jeiel Guarino at IPEN for advice on strategy for testing lead paints
- Colleagues at the Israel Ministry of Health, Standards Institution and University of Haifa for collaboration on the pilot study
- Environment and Health Fund for funding the pilot study on lead in paints and painted surfaces

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