

Statement of compliance for PAH (Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons)



Statement of Compliance

PAH – Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons

Background

The PAH substances are found in tar oil residues from oil refining. They are sometimes used as a cheap softeners or plasticising oils in the manufacture of rubber or soft plastic products. The dark colour and distinctive smell are noticeable characteristics.

PAH can also be found in the air as emissions from incomplete combustion in motor vehicles and cigarettes.

A number of the PAH substances are classified as suspected carcinogens for humans. These substances can be absorbed by the skin, so there is a health risk by skin contact. Following the identification of PAH in rubber and plastic components of a range of consumer products like bicycles, toys, furniture and decoration articles, a number of consumer organisations and test institutes in Germany have adopted a set of voluntary “maximum allowed values”.

For situations with skin contact up to 30 sec., the voluntary limit values are:

Benzo[a]pyrene	20 mg/kg
Sum of 16 different PAH substances (EPA definition)	200 mg/kg

Statement of compliance

To the best of our knowledge the PAH substances would normally not be used in leather manufacture. Hence, leather articles should comply with this voluntary restriction.

On behalf of TFL Ledertechnik GmbH we can confirm that, when applied according to our recommendations, TFL leather chemicals will enable leather to be made so that it complies with the voluntary agreement regarding the above mentioned PAH substances.

The Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) are the official TFL documents regarding the presence of such substances and we ask customers to refer to them.

Any substances presenting a health or environmental hazard according to the EU Regulation 1907/2006 is disclosed in section 2 or 3 of the Material Safety Data Sheet.

Our recommendations are in line with our present state of knowledge.

On behalf of TFL Ledertechnik GmbH

**Quality and Environment Dept.,
TFL Ledertechnik AG
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