



# **CASP 2024**

## **Baby soothers**

### **Final activity report**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of abbreviations.....	!!!
Executive summary .....	!!!

## PART I

Overview of the activity .....	2
Participating MSAs .....	2
Product scope .....	3
Testing criteria.....	3
Sampling and testing .....	4
Sampling distribution .....	4
Testing process.....	4
Test results .....	5
Overview of the test results and main findings .....	5
Results per sampling channel.....	5
Results per Category .....	6
Conclusions on the test results .....	7
Risk assessment and corrective measures.....	8
Risk assessment results .....	8
Corrective measures .....	9
Conclusions and recommendations .....	10
Conclusions .....	10
Recommendations to stakeholders.....	10

## PART II

What is CASP? .....	13
Product-speci'c activities work plan.....	14
Product-speci'c activities processes and tools.....	15

## List of abbreviations

<b>CASP</b>	Coordinated Activities on the Safety of Products
<b>DG JUST</b>	Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers
<b>EC</b>	European Commission
<b>EFTA</b>	European Free Trade Agreement
<b>EN</b>	European Standard
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>GPSD</b>	General Product Safety Directive 2001/95/EC
<b>GPSR</b>	General Product Safety Regulation 2023/988
<b>IM</b>	Intermediate meeting
<b>MSA</b>	Market surveillance authority
<b>PSA</b>	Product-specific activity
<b>REACH</b>	Regulation on the registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals
<b>SAGA</b>	Safety Gate Risk Assessment tool
<b>TSD</b>	Toy Safety Directive 2009/48/EC

## Executive summary

### Objectives

The overarching goal of the Coordinated Activities on the Safety of Products (CASP) project is to protect the health and safety of European consumers by supporting national authorities from EU/EFTA countries responsible

for market surveillance (MSAs) to better coordinate their activities. MSAs participate in joint sampling, testing and risk assessment of specific products during the CASP project.

### Product scope

This activity focuses on baby soothers (also known as pacifiers or dummies) and soother holders (with or

without play elements).

## Main testing criteria and results

Soother holders were tested according to EN 12586:2007+A1:2011 and EN 71-1:2014+A1:2018, while baby soothers were tested according to EN 1400:2013+A2:2018+LC:2019 and REACH Annex XVII (entries 51 and 52). Soother holders had a significantly higher failure rate (72 %) compared to baby soothers, which had a failure rate of 31%. The campaign found that soother holders encountered difficulties related

to general and mechanical requirements, whereas the main problems with baby soothers were linked to impact resistance and shield ventilation.

Examination of the labelling — warnings, marking and instructions — performed by MSAs showed that 39 (27 %) out of 145 samples did not meet the requirements.

## Conclusions

As a result of this testing campaign, MSAs issued 20 Safety Gate notifications<sup>1</sup>. According to risk assessments performed by the MSAs, 9 baby soothers and 23 soother holders presented a serious risk. Measures taken for

the products that did not meet the requirements are the following: 21 were recalled from end users, 21 were banned from the market and 6 were withdrawn.

## Key recommendations to stakeholders

### For consumers

#### Before purchase

- ▶ To be sure that you have the right soother for your child, look at the age recommendation on the product.
- ▶ Homemade soother holders might pose additional risks as they may be less likely to comply with the relevant standard(s).

#### During use

- ▶ Before each use check the soother and soother holder for any signs of wear, cracks or damage and replace them immediately if any defects are found.
- ▶ Never attach the soother holder to other strings, ribbons or cords as these would extend the length of the holder, which is limited to prevent strangulation hazards.
- ▶ Never leave a child unattended with a soother holder, especially while sleeping, as this could increase the risk of strangulation.

### For economic operators

- ▶ You must consider the potential risks your product might pose to young children and state this clearly on the packaging and in the technical documentation.
- ▶ If you're a manufacturer, distributor or importer, know your product and the legal requirements it needs to meet before you place it on the market.
- ▶ If your product has a dual function as soother holder and toy, make sure that it complies with the GPSR and Toy Safety Directive.

### For standardisation organisations

- ▶ Consider adding requirements about small parts for soothers and soother holders, perhaps using the controls stated in EN 71-1.
- ▶ The baby soother standard should address new designs, such as ones with large ventilation holes.
- ▶ Clarification on the volatile compound content requirement is needed. It is difficult for authorities to act if the implications of such tests are not clear.

---

<sup>1</sup> Until 10.4.2025 (included).



# Part I

# Overview of the activity

## Participating MSAs

		Country	MSA
1		Austria	Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection
2		Belgium	Federal Public Service Economy — Directorate-General Quality and Safety
3		Bulgaria	Commission for Consumer Protection
4		Croatia	State Inspectorate
5		Cyprus	Consumer Protection Service
6		Estonia	Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority
7		Germany	Labour Inspectorate State of Bremen <sup>2</sup>
			Detmold District Government <sup>2</sup>
			State Directory of Sachsen
8		Hungary	Ministry of Justice, Consumer Protection Department for Market Surveillance <sup>2</sup>
9		Ireland	Competition and Consumer Protection Commission
10		Lithuania	State Consumer Rights Protection Authority
11		Luxembourg	ILNAS — Market Surveillance Department
12		Malta	Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority
13		Norway	Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection
14		Spain	Ministry of Social Rights, Consumer Affairs and 2030 Agenda <sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> MSAs can participate in the CASP project in the testing-only modality. They participate in the testing process, but are not involved in the discussions and decision-making and do not take part in the activity meetings.

## Product scope

**Table 1: Product scope description**

Baby soothers	Soother holders (traditional)	Soother holders with play element
		
Baby soothers, also known as pacifiers, are small devices made of silicone or latex that are designed for babies to suck on, providing comfort and aiding in their sleep.	Soother holders are accessories that attach to a baby's clothing or stroller, ensuring that the soother remains clean and within reach, preventing it from being lost or dropped.	Soother holders with play elements are multifunctional accessories that not only secure the soother but also incorporate playful features such as colourful beads, soft toys, or teething rings.

Baby soothers and soother holders can pose significant risks, including mechanical hazards such as choking and

strangulation, as well as chemical ones. These risks are amplified by the vulnerability of the intended users.

## Testing criteria

The testing plan for this activity encompasses selected clauses of various standards:

- ▶ Baby soothers were tested in accordance with **EN 1400:2013+A2:2018** (including corrigendum January 2019) and the **REACH** Annex XVII regarding phthalate restrictions (entries 51 and 52).
- ▶ All soother holders were tested according to **EN 12586:2007+A1:2011**, those with a play element were additionally tested according to **EN 71-1:2014+A1:2018** for toy safety and mechanical properties.

Nevertheless, the application of standards is voluntary and therefore, they are not legally binding. Baby soothers may only be placed on the market if they comply with the safety requirement of the GPSR (and previously the GPSD<sup>3</sup>, since this testing activity occurred before the GPSR entered into application). Furthermore, any soother holder that adds play value in the form of a toy must also comply with the Toy Safety Directive.

<sup>3</sup> Directive 2001/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 December 2001 on general product safety (Text with EEA relevance)

# Sampling and testing

## Sampling distribution

The sampling process was carried out by MSAs based on the sampling distribution agreed during the intermediate meeting (IM). A total of 145 products were collected by participating MSAs (81 baby soothers and 64 soother holders, of which 14 had a play element) from online and physical stores. Due to the complexity of the

testing plan and the requirements of the standards, many units were required to perform all tests. Collecting such a large number of units was challenging for some MSAs. However, the laboratory was eventually able to accommodate the varying sampling capacities of the authorities.

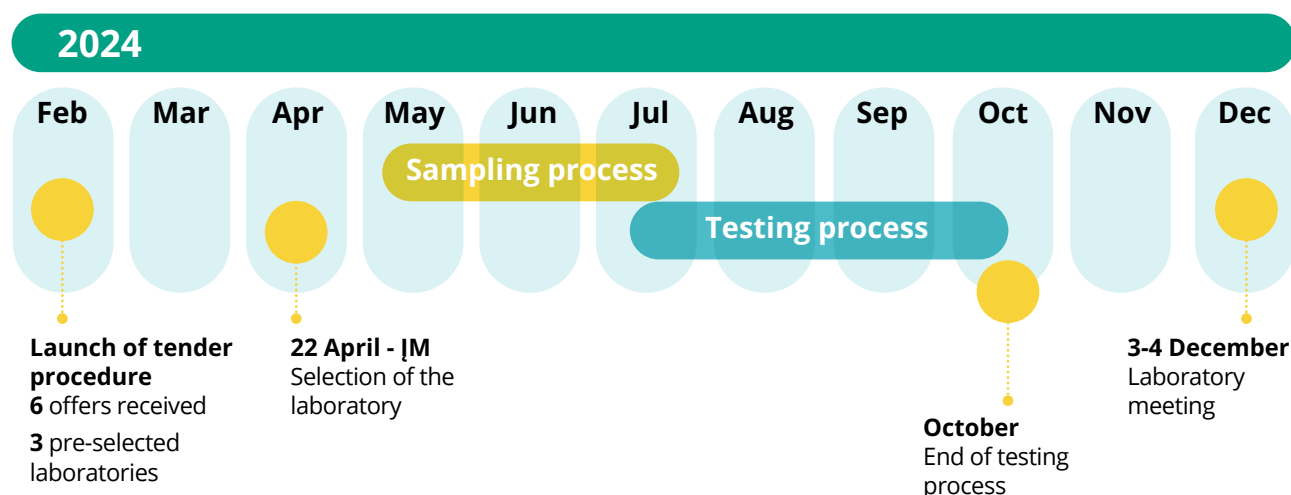
## Testing process

The testing laboratory for this activity was selected through a tender procedure. The tender specifications were sent to 42 EU/EFTA laboratories identified through the project team's engagement strategy. Each laboratory was requested to submit an offer, including pricing details, proof of certification, relevant expert experience and test report templates. Of these, six laboratories submitted an offer within the deadline, which had been extended by four days due to an insufficient number of offers initially received. Based on the completeness and competitiveness of the offers, three were pre-selected and invited to an interview.

During the IM, the MSAs were presented with comparative analyses of the technical quality and financial aspects of the pre-selected offers. The best two preselected testing laboratories were invited to the IM to explain their offers and clarify doubts, due to the complexity of the testing plan and the large number of units required by the relevant standards. The MSAs selected the laboratory that was awarded the highest number of final points based on the quality and price of their offer.

Following the selection of the laboratory, MSAs were given two months to collect the samples and send them to the laboratory.

**Figure 1: Timeline of the sampling and testing process**



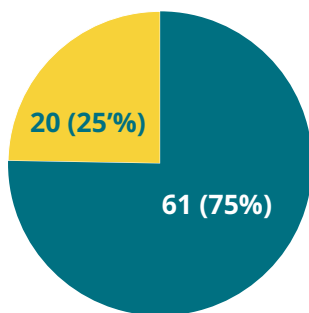


## Test results

### Overview of the test results and main findings

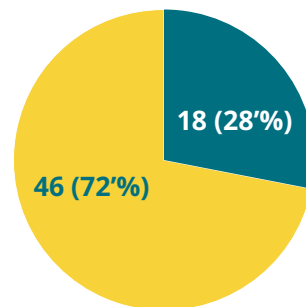
Excluding the outcome of the checks on warnings, markings and instructions, 20 (25 %) out of 81 baby soother samples and 46 (72 %) out of 64 soother holder samples did not meet the rest of the requirements of the testing plan.

**Figure 2: Overall test results for baby soothers (N=81)**



Met the requirements

**Figure 3: Overall test results for soother holders (N=64)**



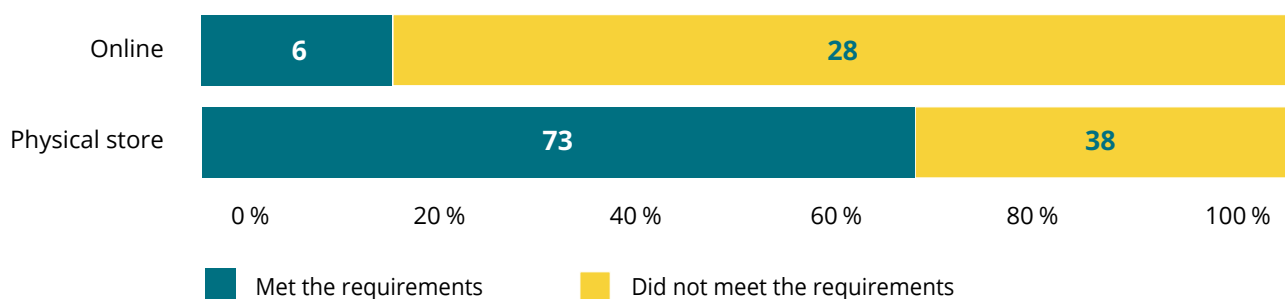
Did not meet the requirements

### Results per sampling channel

A total of 111 samples were obtained in physical stores and 34 were purchased online.

The testing results revealed that 82 % of the products purchased online did not meet the requirements of the testing plan, while the failure rate for samples purchased in physical stores was 34 %.

**Figure 4: Test results by sampling channel (N=145)**



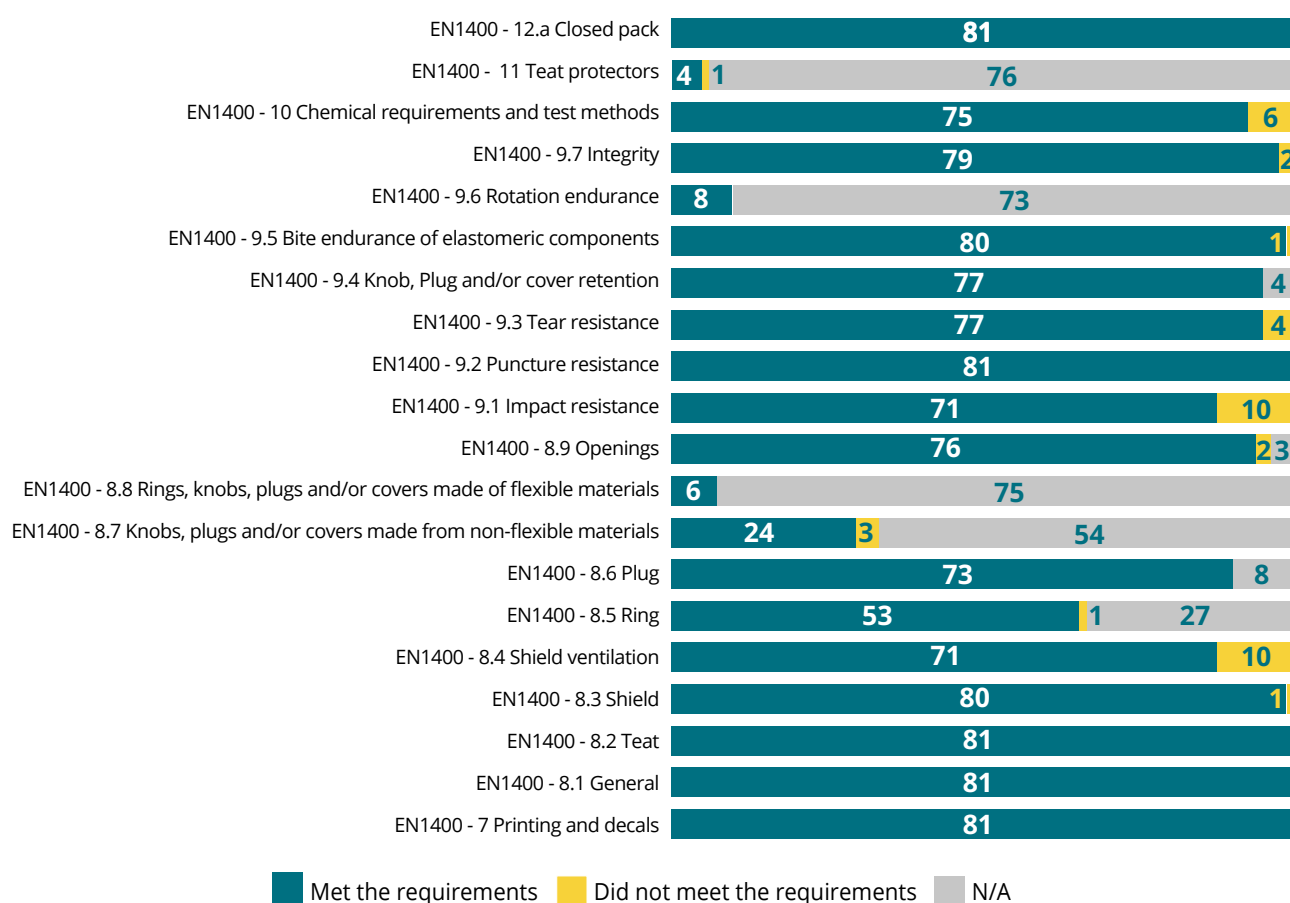
## Results per Category

### Baby soothers

20 (25%) out of 81 baby soothers failed to meet at least one of the testing requirements. If we consider both the tests performed by the laboratory and the warnings, markings and instructions checks performed by the MSAs, a total of 25 (31%) samples did not meet at least one of the requirements.

Looking at the results of EN 1400:2013+A2:2018+LC:2019, clauses with the higher failure rates include Clause 9.1 Impact resistance, Clause 8.4 Shield ventilation and Clause 9.3 Tear resistance.

**Figure 5: Test results per clause for standard EN 1400:2013+A2:2018+LC:2019 (N=81)**



The MSAs performed checks on warnings, markings and instructions in their national language(s). In total, 14 (17%) out of 81 samples did not meet the requirements. The most common non-compliance issues were:

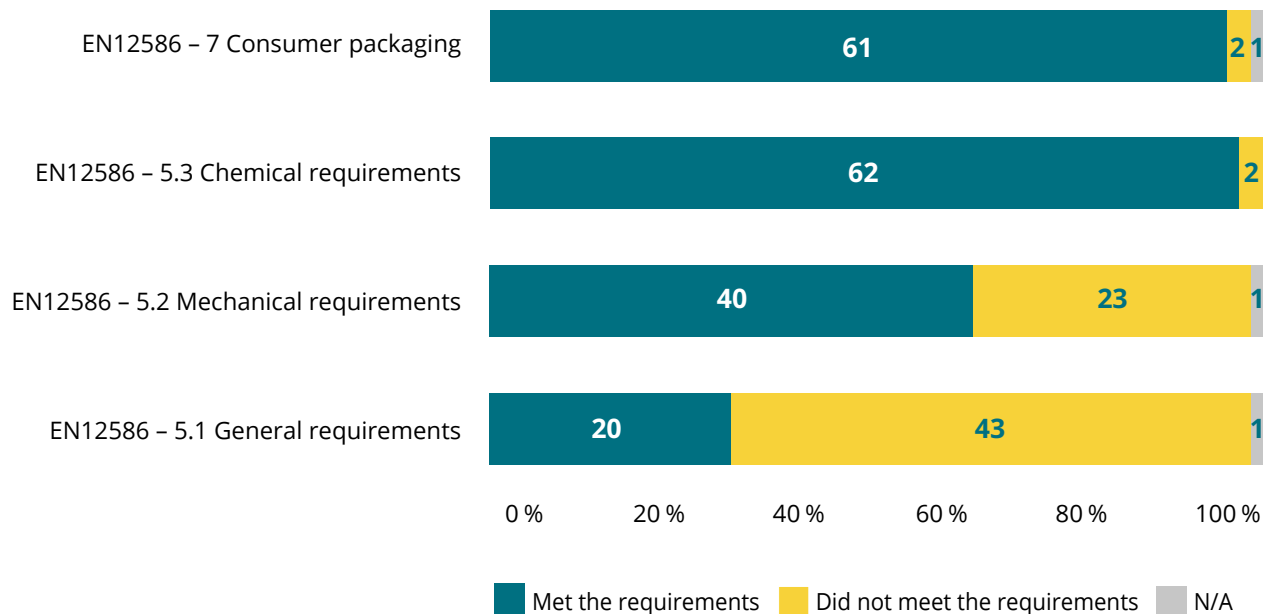
- Instructions were not given as described in Clause 13.3 and not included in a separate leaflet placed inside the packaging.
- Warnings were not provided completely and in the order as required in Clause 13.3.2.

### Soother holders

Out of 64 soother holders, 46 (72%) failed to meet the necessary requirements. This figure remains unchanged when considering the checks performed by the MSAs on warnings, markings, and instructions. Breaking this down further by type of soother holder:

- 35 out of 50 traditional soother holders (70%) failed to meet the requirements.
- 11 out of 14 soother holders with a play element (79%) did not meet the requirements.

**Figure 6: Results by clause — EN 12586:2007+A1:2011 (N=64)**



Looking at the results of EN 12586:2007+A1:2011, clauses with the higher failure rates include Clause 5.1 on general requirements and Clause 5.2 on mechanical requirements.

13 of the soother holders with a play element were also tested against EN 71-1:2104+A1: 2018 — Clause 5.1.12.6 on the supplementary components as toys. 7 out of 13 (54 %) did not meet the requirements

The MSAs performed checks on warnings, markings and instructions in their national language(s). In total, 25 (39 %) out of 64 samples did not meet the requirements. The most common non-compliance issues were:

- ▶ Purchase information not including number and year of the EN.
- ▶ Product information not in the official language of the country of sale.
- ▶ Consumer packaging not including legible instructions for use and hygiene.

## Conclusions on the test results

### Baby soothers

The soothers failed in several ways:

- ▶ One sample failed due to a shield that was too small, allowing it to enter the mouth. This sample also had non-compliant ventilation and a knob that was too small to grasp.
- ▶ Four products failed tear resistance, with their teats tearing off during abuse testing, posing a significant choking risk.
- ▶ Ten products failed due to inadequate or missing ventilation, with one case having the ventilation covered by the ring. Notably, four items had unusual ventilation shapes that provided a larger area and were unlikely to pose a hazard yet still failed the standard's requirements.

- ▶ Ten products failed impact resistance tests, resulting in parts of the shield or ring breaking off, creating a potential choking hazard.
- ▶ Seven products failed chemical requirements related to volatile compounds, indicating inconsistent manufacturing or inability to withstand normal use. In two cases, teat breakage occurred in subsequent tests. The standard does not classify the release of these compounds as a hazard for children.

Overall, the results highlighted various failures, particularly regarding product strength and ventilation issues. Some ventilation problems stemmed from unusual designs, suggesting that the standard may need modification to accommodate different ventilation designs that do not pose hazards to children.

### Soother holders

The toy tests under EN 71-1 revealed failures related to cords (strangulation hazard), small balls (choking hazard), parts passing through template A (gagging/choking hazard) and one item with overly thin plastic sheet packaging (suffocation hazard). Many of these products may not have been categorised as toys by the economic operators.

Tests under EN 12586 identified multiple failures in garment fasteners that lacked required ventilation holes. Additional failures included beads needing ventilation, numerous soother holders that broke, garment fasteners that detached, holders exceeding the 220 mm

length limit, straps or cords that were too thin, and a few items with sharp edges or points. Two products failed for containing nickel in metal components. In addition, the failures suggest that few items seem to be designed with the EN 12586 standard in mind.

### Warnings, markings and instructions

The checks performed by the MSAs on warnings, markings and instructions in their national language(s) revealed that 39 samples (27 %) did not meet the requirements. These elements are an essential source of information for parents/caregivers about the product and its safe use.

## Risk assessment and corrective measures

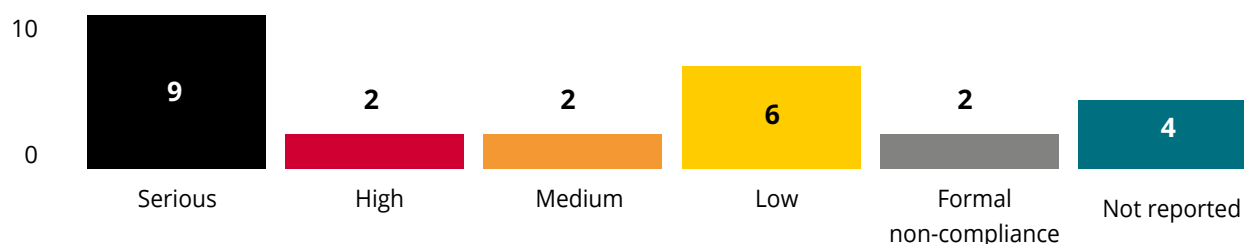
### Risk assessment results

When assessing whether a product poses a risk, Article 26 on the notifications of dangerous products through the Safety Gate Rapid Alert System should be respected<sup>4</sup>. Baby soothers can only be placed on the market if they comply with the safety requirements. Any soother holder that adds play value in the form of a toy must also comply with the provisions of the Toy Safety Directive.

**Figure 7** and **Figure 8** show the risk level of the samples that did not meet the requirements<sup>5</sup>.

- ▶ 14 **baby soothers** were evaluated as posing either a serious (9), high (2) or medium (2) risk.
- ▶ In the case of **soother holders**, 31 samples were evaluated as posing a serious (23), high (4) or medium (4) risk.

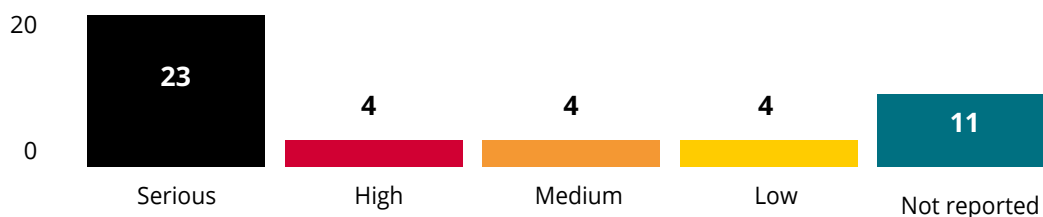
**Figure 7: Risk levels of baby soothers (N=25)**



<sup>4</sup> Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on market surveillance and compliance of products.

<sup>5</sup> Products that met the testing requirement, but not the requirements on warnings, markings and instructions are reported under the label 'Formal non-compliance'.

**Figure 8: Risk levels of soother holders (N=46)**

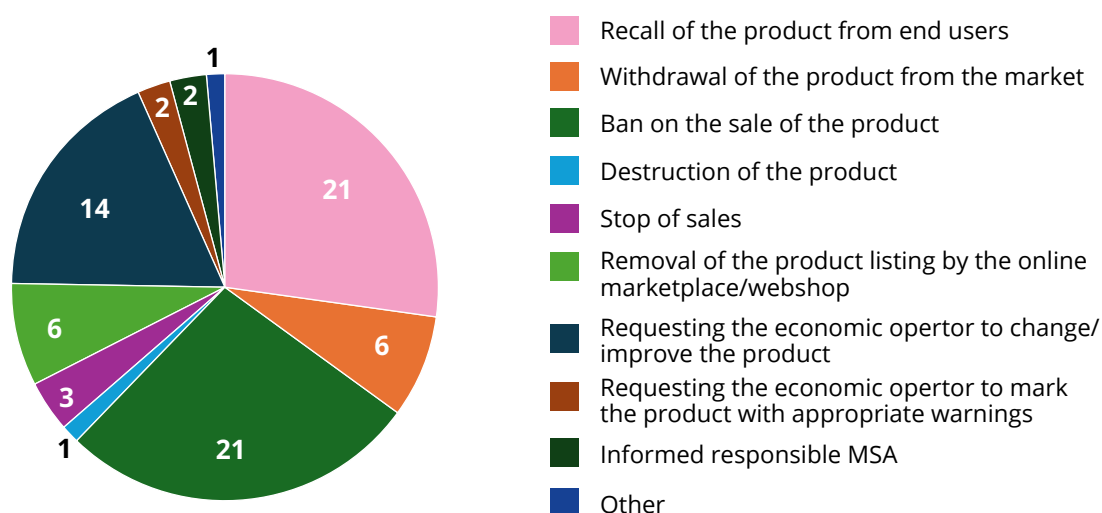


## Corrective measures

Based on the test results and the risk assessments performed, the MSAs determined the corrective measures for products that did not comply with EU

legislation and/or applicable standards. Figure 9 illustrates the corrective measures taken for products that failed to meet the testing requirements.

**Figure 9: Measures taken for products that did not meet the requirements (N=77)<sup>6</sup>**



Additionally, MSAs are legally required to submit a notification through the Safety Gate Rapid Alert System in accordance with Article 26 of the GPSR when a serious risk is identified. It is also recommended to submit notifications of measures taken for products that are assessed as posing a less-than-serious risk based on the GPSR and Regulation (EU) 2019/1020.

Following this testing campaign, Safety Gate notifications were issued for 20 products (9 for baby soothers and 11 for soother holders).

<sup>6</sup> Until 10.4.2025 (included).

# Conclusions and recommendations

## Conclusions

The activity revealed a higher failure rate for soother holders (72 %) compared to baby soothers (31 %) when including the outcome of the checks on warnings, markings and instructions. The campaign identified that the primary issues for baby soothers were related to impact resistance and shield ventilation. Meanwhile, soother holders faced challenges concerning general and mechanical requirements, such as breakage of the garment fastener, supplementary components lacking ventilation holes or protruding past the base of guides 1 and the cord not complying with the requirements regarding thickness.

MSAs performed verification on warnings, markings and instructions in their national languages that showed 39 (27 %) of samples did not meet the requirements. This is an important part of the risk profile of any product as it provides parents/caregivers with crucial information about a product's correct use and age suitability.

MSAs issued 20 Safety Gate notifications and instructed the economic operators to withdraw the products from the market and warn consumers of the risks.

## Recommendations to stakeholders

The following recommendations are based on the outcome of the testing process and discussions among

MSAs during the project.

### For consumers

#### Before purchase

- ▶ Have you checked the safety instructions of your child's new soother or soother holder? Make sure to follow these instructions closely as they provide essential information and guidelines aimed at protecting the health and safety of young children and contains important warnings and instructions for use. The absence of any safety information could indicate that the product does not meet the relevant safety standards.
- ▶ EU-wide product testing has shown that soothers and soother holders bought in shops perform better in safety tests than products bought online. Avoid buying soothers and soother holders from cheap marketplaces offering products at lower prices compared to traditional retail outlets. Buy from reputable brands and sellers and make sure that the product has the manufacturer's information on the product.
- ▶ If you learn that the product has been recalled, stop using it immediately and follow the instructions on the recall notice.
- ▶ To be sure that you have the right soother for your child, look at the age recommendation on the product.
- ▶ Be aware that soother holders may easily break or have small detachable pieces that children could put into their mouths and choke on.
- ▶ Homemade soother holders might pose additional risks, as they may be less likely to comply with the relevant standard(s).

- ▶ Check on [Safety Gate](#) to see if the product you are buying (with the same batch number and/or product code) has been identified as dangerous. If in doubt, contact the manufacturer.

#### During use

- ▶ Babies love putting things into their mouth. Make sure that your child's soother and soother holder do not have small parts that can easily come off and be swallowed. One-piece soothers (that cannot come apart or are made of one single piece of plastic) might pose less risks than other pacifiers.
- ▶ Before each use, check the soother and soother holder for any signs of wear, cracks or damage and replace them immediately if any defects are found.
- ▶ Do you know that you can now report any safety issues or accidents with your product to your consumer protection authority? Visit the [Consumer Safety Gateway](#).
- ▶ Never attach the soother holder to other strings, ribbons or cords, as this would extend the length of the holder, which is limited to prevent strangulation hazards.
- ▶ Never leave a child unattended with a soother holder, especially while sleeping, as this could increase the risk of strangulation.

## For economic operators

- ▶ You must consider the potential risks your product might pose to young children and state this clearly on the packaging and in the technical documentation.
- ▶ If you're a manufacturer, distributor or importer, know your product and the legal requirements it needs to meet before you place it on the market.
- ▶ Baby soothers and soother holders must comply with the general product safety requirement. It is recommended to use the following standards — EN 1400 for soothers and EN 12586 for soother holders — to assess their safety.
- ▶ If your product has a dual function as soother holder and toy, make sure that it complies with the GPSR and Toy Safety Directive. Be aware that there is an existing [EC guidance](#) document on soother holders with play elements.
- ▶ Clearly communicate with consumers on possible recall actions. Ensure that recall notices indicate the hazards posed by the product, a contact point and how they can claim compensation. Use the instructions on [Recalls](#), it is also recommended to use the template for consistency and clarity.
- ▶ Regularly monitor the impact of a recall and adjust the strategy accordingly.

## For standardisation organisations

- ▶ There is a contradiction between EN 71-1:2014+A1:2018 and EN 12586:2007+A1:2011 since EN 71-1 indicates that supplementary components cannot protrude past the guide (which is more stringent). However, according to EN 12586 it can protrude as long as the ventilation holes are not blocked. It is recommended to align such details in the various standards and to consider adding requirements regarding small parts for soothers and soother holders, potentially using the controls specified in EN 71-1 for parts that may be liberated during abuse testing.
- ▶ Consider adding requirements about small parts for soothers and soother holders, perhaps using the controls stated in EN 71-1.
- ▶ The baby soother standard should address new designs, such as ones with large ventilation holes.
- ▶ Clarification on the volatile compound content is needed. It is difficult for authorities to act if the implications of such tests are not clear. A chemical failure is a very serious issue, but the compound test only provides information on the manufacturing process.
- ▶ In EN 1400, clauses 6.3.4 and 6.4.3, there is a requirement for new samples from the same batch to be used for each test. While a larger quantity of samples from one batch is easier for a manufacturer to supply for check testing, the requirement to obtain 10 units of baby soothers for testing in accordance with the standard can complicate enforcement actions, as it is often challenging – if not impossible – to get 10 units from the same batch. This issue is even more significant when purchasing products online and it should be addressed. In the CASP project, the laboratory was able to work with a lower number of samples while still completing the testing. It would be advisable to lower the required number of samples, which would be more appropriate for enforcement actions.



- ▶ Ensure that the standard defines how the soother should be placed during the impact test. Different positions will produce different results.



# Part II



## What is CASP?

The Coordinated Activities on the Safety of Products (CASP) project enables close cooperation between market surveillance authorities from European Union/

European Free Trade Agreement countries to ensure the safety of products on the Single Market.

## CASP 2024 includes seven product-specific testing activities and two horizontal activities

**Participants in the product-specific activities** test the jointly selected products sampled on their respective national markets. The products are tested in accredited laboratories in the EU/EFTA according to the commonly agreed testing criteria.

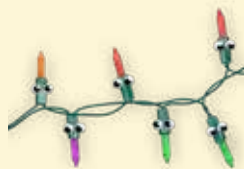
CASP 2024 also includes one re-testing activity. Based on the same testing plan as in the previous testing campaign of the given product category, the re-testing initiative involves repeating large-scale market surveillance activities for those product categories to verify the compliance level after a certain period of time.



**PSA 1**  
Baby soothers



**PSA 2**  
High chairs



**PSA 3**  
Lighting chains



**PSA 4**  
Mini electric heaters



**PSA 5**  
Disposable electronic cigarettes



**PSA 6**  
Bicycles for children



**PSA 7**  
Slime toys (re-testing)

**Horizontal activities** provide a knowledge-exchange forum for market surveillance authorities. With the guidance of technical experts in the relevant fields, the participants develop common approaches, procedures, and practical tools for market surveillance.

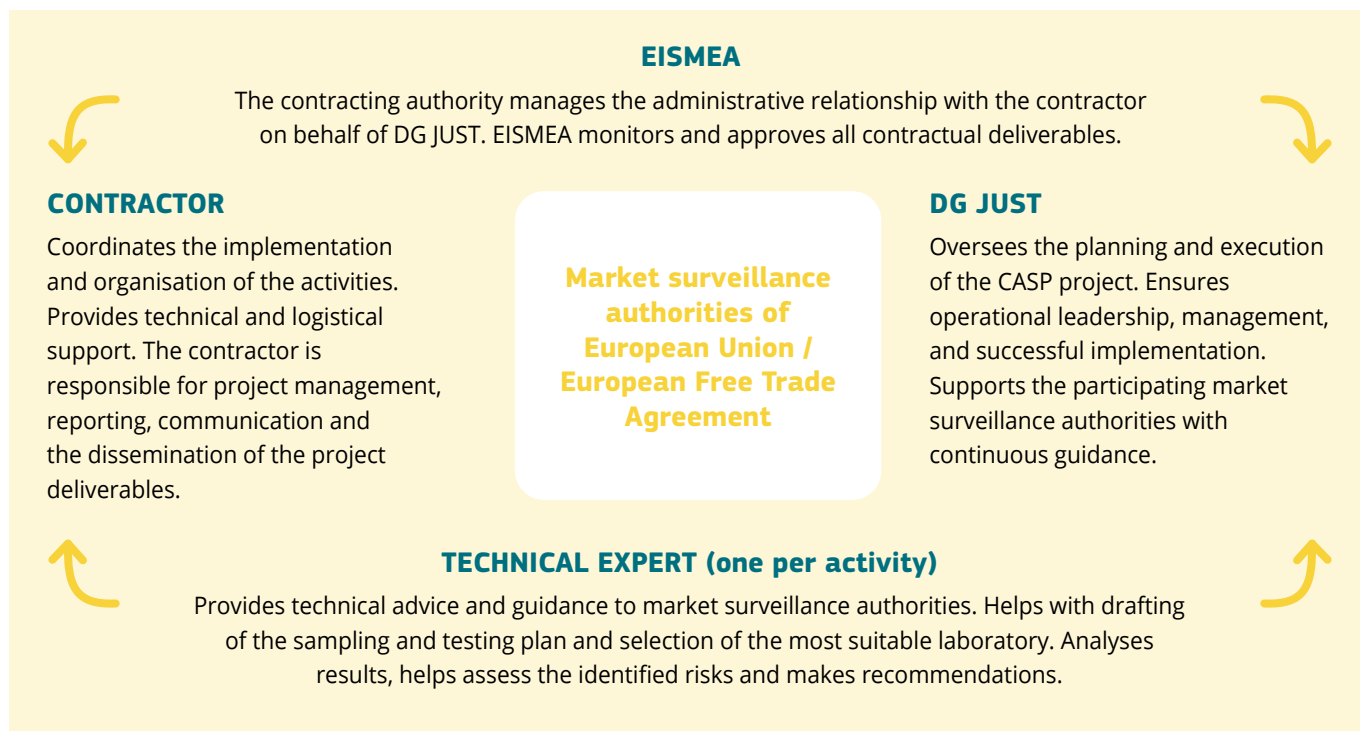


**HA 1**  
Standardisation – use of standards by analogy

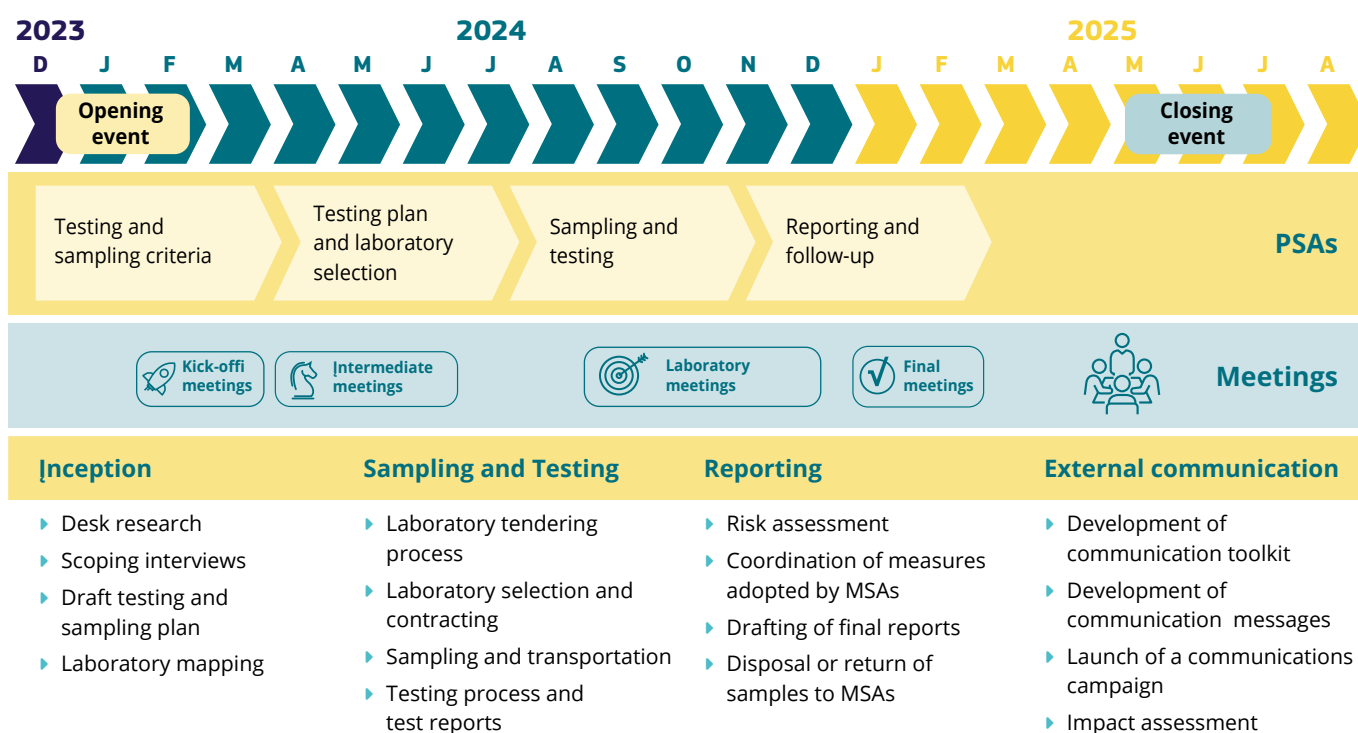


**HA 2**  
Starter kit for newcomers

## Roles and responsibilities



## Product-specific activities work plan



**Communication and dissemination**

## Product-specific activities processes and tools

<p><b>0 Pre-CASP process</b></p> <p>DG JUST conducts a priority-setting exercise with market surveillance authorities to select the product categories for each CASP project. This selection process encompasses both new and previously tested product categories in the framework of a CASP project.</p>	<p><b>1 Validation of testing and sampling plans</b></p> <p>The technical experts draft the testing plans based on the priorities set by market surveillance authorities and the main product hazards identified. The drafts are presented at the kick-off meetings, then finetuned and validated by the participants.</p>	<p><b>2 Laboratory selection</b></p> <p>The contractor's team maps the testing laboratories and contacts them to collect preliminary fee quotes and other relevant information. The tendering process is launched after the kick-off meetings, and the offers are compared and evaluated. During the intermediate meetings, the market surveillance authorities select one laboratory per activity.</p>
<p><b>3 Collection and transportation of samples</b></p> <p>The market surveillance authorities collect samples from their national markets, perform preliminary checks and send them to the selected testing laboratory.</p>	<p><b>4 Testing and delivery of test reports</b></p> <p>The laboratory tests the samples according to the agreed testing plan. The market surveillance authorities check and validate the test reports.</p>	<p><b>5 Risk assessment</b></p> <p>The technical expert and the market surveillance authorities perform risk assessments on all samples that do not meet the testing requirements.</p>
<p><b>6 Measures adopted by the market surveillance authorities</b></p> <p>The market surveillance authorities take corrective measures for the products that do not meet the requirements and issue notifications on Safety Gate.</p>		<p><b>7 External communications</b></p> <p>The external communication campaign will launch when all testing results have been validated. It is rolled out via media and influencer engagement activities, supported through stakeholder dissemination activities.</p>

## External communication

### Communication tools

- ▶ **Final reports** for each activity and for the CASP 2024 project;
- ▶ **Factsheets;**
- ▶ **#ProductGo game and related assets;**
- ▶ **Press kit and social media assets.**

### Channels

The communication material is disseminated via:

- ▶ [ec.europa.eu](https://ec.europa.eu) web presence ([Safety Gate](#), [CASP](#) webpage, [EISMEA news](#) section);
- ▶ Social media accounts of DG JUST and EISMEA;
- ▶ Communication channels of market surveillance authorities;
- ▶ Selected partner influencers;
- ▶ Selected media partnerships.

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers  
Directorate Consumers  
Unit B4 Product Safety and Rapid Alert System  
Email: [JUST-B4@ec.europa.eu](mailto:JUST-B4@ec.europa.eu)

The European Commission is not liable for any consequence stemming from the reuse of this publication.

© European Union, 2025.

The reuse policy of European Commission documents is implemented based on Commission Decision 2011/833/EU of 12 December 2011 on the reuse of Commission documents (OJ L 330, 14.12.2011, p. 39).

Except otherwise noted, the reuse of this document is authorised under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC-BY 4.0) licence (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>). This means that reuse is allowed provided appropriate credit is given and any changes are indicated.

For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the European Union, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective rightholders.

Information about the European Union in all the official languages of the EU is available on the Europa website at: [https://europa.eu/european-union/index\\_en](https://europa.eu/european-union/index_en)



Publications Office  
of the European Union

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2025  
ISBN 978-92-68-26424-9  
doi:10.2838/1622056