

## Why Lead (Pb) Testing?

Considered as an impediment in the supply chain, there were a lot of manufacturers of children's bedding and clothing in the past who argued that the testing of lead (Pb) in their products did not make sense, saying it placed an unproductive burden on them, and it required their *already safe products* to undergo costly or unnecessary testing.

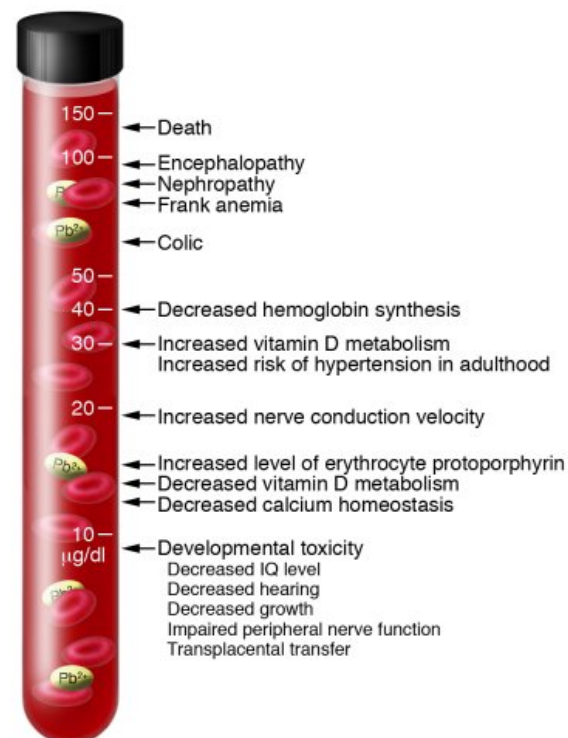
The huge outcry of Consumer Safety (thanks to institutions like CPSC), however, has turned the tables. It is a pleasure to see Manufacturers/Agents and Buyers now responsibly ensuring that their products comply with limits set for the consumer safety.

Especially when it comes to the Textile/Apparel industry, Lead is in a variety of ways and under a variety of names:

- Lead Acetate  
Dyeing of textiles
- Lead Chloride  
Preparation of lead salts
- Lead Molybdate  
Pigments used in dyestuffs
- Lead Nitrate  
Mordant in dyeing; oxidizer in dyeing

Children are uniquely susceptible to lead exposure over time, and neural damage occurring during the period from 1 to 3 years of age is not likely to be reversible. It's also important to

be aware that lead available from tested products would not be the only of exposure in a child's environment. Although substantial and very successful efforts have been made in the past twenty years to reduce environmental lead, children are still exposed to lead in products other than toys or fabrics. Even



though it was eliminated from most gasoline, lead continues to be used in aviation and other specialty fuels. And from all those years of leaded gasoline, the stuff that came out of cars as fuel exhaust still pollutes soil along our roadways, becoming readily airborne and easily inhaled. All lead exposure is cumulative – so it's important to eliminate any source that's within our power to do so.

(Textile Testing International was the first Pakistani Lab accredited by the US Consumer Safety Commission in 2008 and has been spreading awareness on Pb (Lead) Testing since then) For Further information contact Sarim Mehmood (E-mail: