

How are PAHs regulated?

PAHs are persistent organic pollutants (POP) restricted in the European Dangerous Substances Directive (76/769/EC) as well as in the German Chemical Act (ChemVerbotsV). The PAH marker substance Benzo[a]pyrene (BaP) is a class II carcinogen, mutagen, and reprotoxin. In order to take immediate action, certain German trading houses and the German BfR Institute (Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung) have agreed to follow the maximum limits for consumer products:

- **Plastics, which will be touched normally for more than 30 seconds**
(Examples: handles, steering wheels, etc.)

EPA – PAH	10 mg/kg (sum)
Benzo[a]pyrene	1 mg/kg
- **Plastics, which will be touched now and then for less than 30 seconds**
(Examples: plugs, inner parts, etc.)

EPA – PAH	200 mg/kg (sum)
Benzo[a]pyrene	20 mg/kg