EU SETS NEW LIMIT FOR PHENOL MIGRATION FROM FOOD CONTACT PLASTICS

Phenol is a versatile chemical which has many different usages. It can be used as starting chemical for production of other common chemicals including Bisphenol A (BPA). It can also be used as starting monomer for making of polymers.

In Regulation (EU) No 10/2011, Phenol is under the Union List which can be used for production of food contact plastics whereas the Regulation has not set a specific migration limit (SML) on it. Thus a generic limit of 60 mg/kg can be applied.

On 5 Feb 2015, Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/174 has been published to set a new SML for Phenol at 3 mg/kg.

Considering the possible application of Phenol in production of other chemicals and also polymers, the below food contact materials are of higher concern:

- Epoxy resins
- Polycarbonate (PC)
- Phenol-containing polymers, e.g. Phenol-Formaldehyde (PF) resin

SGS Hong Kong can offer the testing on specific migration of Phenol from food contact plastics and provide you with solution on complying with the new EU requirements.

For more information, please contact one of our Sales Associates for details.