



**Toy Industry** Association, Inc.

# Best Practices for Toy Buyers

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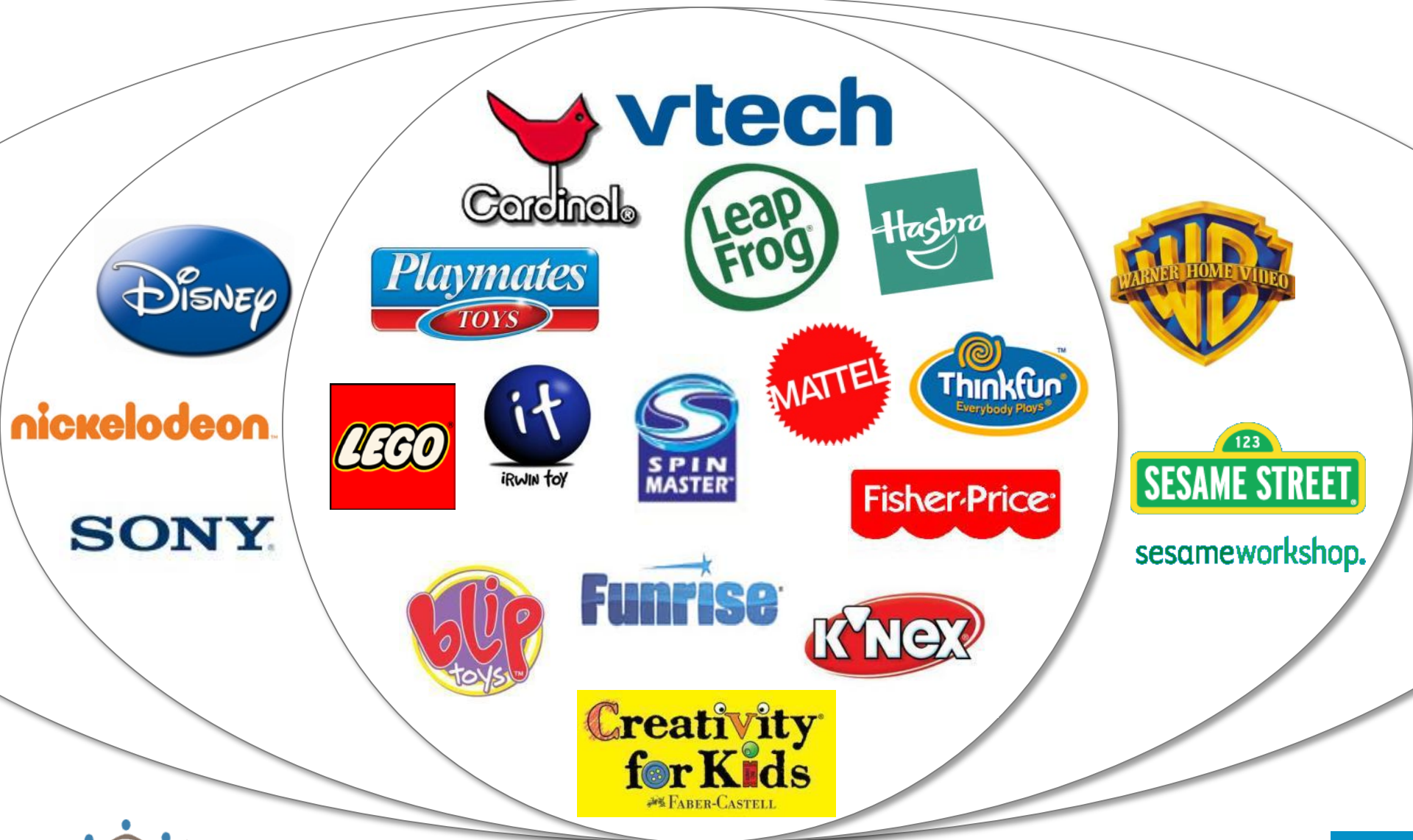
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# Toy Industry Association (TIA)

- **Trade association** for North American-based manufacturers, importers, licensors and toy retailers (regular members)
- **Associate members include** inventors, designers, testing labs
- Canadian Toy Association is affiliate
- Formed in 1916
- Over 950 members
- Members represent approximately 90% of the North American market

# Toy Industry Association

Toy Companies, Licensors, Inventors and Designers, Manufacturers Reps, Retailers



# A History of Leadership in Toy Safety

1930s	1940s	1950s	1970s	1990s	2000s	2010-2013
TIA institutes its Safety Standards Committee and begins partnership with the National Safety Council (NSC).	TIA and NSC collaboration leads to establishment of a National Accident Reporting Service.	<p>TIA and NSC efforts continue with development of National Clearinghouse for Toy Injuries.</p> <p>TIA joins with American National Standards Institute (ANSI) to develop a standard for the coating finishes on toys and other children's articles.</p>	<p>TIA leadership results in publication of first comprehensive national toy safety standard (known today as ASTM F963).</p> <p>TIA launches a Toy Safety Educational Program.</p>	1996-TIA institutes an annual Toy Safety Conference for Chinese manufacturers in conjunction with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and Chinese government.	<p>TIA advocates for mandatory toy safety testing; works with legislators to develop enhanced, uniform toy safety laws; and develops safety compliance best practices.</p> <p>Congress passes Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act; Mandates compliance with ASTM F963</p>	<p>TIA develops <b>www.PlaySafe.org</b> website as a resource for parents and other caregivers on safe and fun toys and the importance of play.</p> <p>F15.22 Subcommittee awarded CPSC Chairman's Commendation for protecting "countless lives" over its history.</p>

# Best Practices for Toy Buyers

- Start with the mindset that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure – it is much more cost-effective to design and produce a safe and compliant product than to deal with the consequences of a non-compliant one, such as a recall
- Safety is a seat with three legs – if any are missing, the seat cannot stand.
- The three legs are ***design, manufacturing capability, and testing***

# Design Considerations

- Design with existing standards as product performance requirements-while standards cannot necessarily cover every risk, *not* meeting them is not acceptable
- Be certain to conduct design reviews by an independent party (internal or external) – Designers often do not see potential issues, and the more eyes looking for them, the more likely they are to be flagged
- Remember that it is much less expensive to correct a design on paper than a finished product
- Be certain to look for novel risks that may not be covered by standards



# Main Requirements Applicable to Toys

- ASTM F963
- FHSA and CPSA Regulations
- FDA requirements – Lasers, Medical Devices, Cosmetics
- State Statutes – WA, ME, VT, OR, PA, OH, MA
- EU Toy Safety Directive/EN71/EN62115
  - Safety Assessment
  - Technical Dossier
- ISO 8124/ISO 62115
- Canada Toys Regulations
- Retailer Requirements

# Manufacturing Considerations

- Do not order from a seller unless you have seen the factory – assess whether it has capacity and capability to produce your product to specification, on time
- Ask about potential subcontractors
- Conduct process capability studies on critical production steps
- Perform social compliance audit
- Do not simply rely on assurances of compliance by seller – conduct due diligence, use due care
- Be certain to look for other production processes that may affect your product





# Testing Considerations

- Be certain to use a third-party laboratory accredited to ISO 17025 by ILAC signatory and accepted by CPSC-for all tests required
- Do not allow seller to select test samples; laboratory can do this for you – this avoids “golden sample” issue
- Retest whenever a material change occurs- change of product design, factory, material, process, etc.
- If no change, retest at least once per year; more frequently is advisable

# Wrap-up

- **Questions/ Discussion?**

# Thank You

## ■ Thank you for your attention

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