

## COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE PRESS RELEASE

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## Clarification and additional information regarding chemicals in EURO 2012 shirts

The statement made in our press release (PR 2012/017) that Poland's EURO 2012 shirt contains an organotin compound (DBT, dibutyltin) of 3.2 mg/kg "exceeding legal limits" should be clarified as follows:

Specifically, the detected levels of DBT exceeded the limits set down within two technical standards named UNI/TR 11359:2010 from the Italian Standards Body and Oeko-Tex.

Oeko-Tex is the most commonly used and internationally best recognised standard for textiles, as accepted by the industry itself. This standard has a specific DBT threshold of 2 mg/kg for textiles which come in direct contact with the skin. The Polish football shirt exceeded this threshold significantly.

The European Union chemicals regulation (REACH) establishes a DBT limit of 0.1% by weight of tin in products - including textiles. The Polish shirt was within this REACH limit. However, BEUC considers this REACH level to be too high to ensure sufficient protection of consumers' health.

That only one out of nine tested EURO 2012 shirts contained DBT beyond the limits of the technical standards and the fact that seven out of nine shirts were free of DBT demonstrates that more restrictive standards can easily be complied with, while also proving that there is no technical need for the use of DBT in the production process.

For more information, please refer to the attached Q&A.