



MOSH/MOAH

Migration of mineral oil from packaging materials to foodstuffs

Foodstuffs like rice, cereal, pasta but also deep-frozen food are very often boxed in cardboard made of recycled paper. More and more these packaging are getting the attraction of the public due to their potential hazard to the consumer's health. (*)

Findings of investigations by the Swiss canton laboratory in Zurich showed that this kind of cardboard may contain significant amount of mineral oils coming from the printing inks of recycled newspapers. These substances have the capability to migrate from the packaging onto the foodstuffs finding their way via consumption into the human body. (*)

From the chemical point of view these mineral oils contain saturated (MOSH) and aromatic (MOAH) hydrocarbons – the last one with a content of 15-20%. The kind of composition of these mineral oils causes diverse toxicity. This leads to the deduction of the temporarily accepted daily intake which may vary tremendously. (*)

Contact

Intertek Expert Services

Sandro O. Laiso

Central Europe Sales &
Marketing Manager

P.O. BOX

CH-4002 Basel

Tel.: +41 61 686 4806

Email contact:

sandro.laiso@intertek.
com

(*)Source: Bundesamt
für Risikobewertung
([http://www.bfr.bund.de/
cd/50470](http://www.bfr.bund.de/cd/50470))

Analytical Services

Due to the extremely varying composition of saturated and aromatic hydrocarbons in mineral oils these mixtures cannot be quantified via classical gaschromatographical single substance analytics.

Intertek Expert Services offers his clients the quantitative determination of MOSH and as appropriate MOAH by extraction with a column chromatographical cleaning and measurement by GC/FID analogous to the method from the Swiss canton laboratory in Zurich.

Samples

Beside the analysis of recycled cardboards and other packaging Intertek Expert Services offers the testing of fatty, solid and semi-solid foodstuffs and feedingstuff as well.