

1983 No. 28

FOOD AND DRUGS

**Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (Amendment) Regulations
(Northern Ireland) 1983**

Made 1st March 1983

Coming into operation 12th April 1983

The Department of Health and Social Services, being a designated Department(a) for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(b) in relation to materials and articles in contact with food or drink or intended for such contact, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by the said section 2(2) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983 and shall come into operation on 12th April 1983.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these regulations “the principal regulations” means the Materials and Articles in Contact with Food Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981(c).

(2) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(d) shall apply to these regulations as it applies to a measure of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Amendment of the principal regulations

3. Regulation 4 of the principal regulations shall be amended by inserting after paragraph (2A) the following paragraph:—

“(2B) Materials and articles to which this regulation applies and which are manufactured with vinyl chloride polymers or copolymers shall be manufactured in such a way that they do not transfer to foods with which they are in contact any vinyl chloride detectable by the method of analysis specified in regulation 13A(2).”.

4. Regulation 7 of the principal regulations shall be amended by inserting, at the end of paragraphs (1), (1A) and (2), the words “and (2B)”.

5. Regulation 13A of the principal regulations shall be amended by inserting after the existing paragraph, (which shall be renumbered 13A(1)), the following paragraph:—

“(2) The method used in analysing any food for the purpose of establishing the quantity of vinyl chloride present in the food in order to determine whether a material or article which is or has been in contact with the food complies with the provisions of regulation 4(2B) shall be the method specified in the Annex to Commission Directive No. 81/432/EEC(e) (which lays down the Community

(a) Designated by S.I. 1976/2141

(b) 1972 c. 68

(c) S.R. 1981 No. 285, amended by S.R. 1982 No. 144

(d) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)

(e) O.J. No. L167, 24.6.81, p. 6

method of analysis for the official control of vinyl chloride released by materials and articles into foodstuffs) subject to a detection limit of 0.01 milligrams of vinyl chloride per kilogram of food.”.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland on 1st March 1983.

(L.S.)

J. A. Wylie

Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations, which come into operation on 12th April 1983, further amend the Materials and Articles in Contact with Food Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981.

They implement Commission Directive No. 81/432/EEC (O.J. No. L167, 24.6.81, p. 6) which lays down the Community method of analysis for the official control of vinyl chloride released by materials and articles into foodstuffs and complete the implementation of Council Directive No. 78/142/EEC (O.J. No. L44, 15.2.78, p. 15) on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to materials and articles which contain vinyl chloride monomer and are intended to come into contact with foodstuffs.

The regulations—

- (a) control the transfer of vinyl chloride from materials and articles manufactured with vinyl chloride polymers or copolymers and intended for contact with food to food with which they are in contact (regulations 3 and 4); and
- (b) prescribe a method of analysis for establishing the quantity of vinyl chloride present in food (regulation 5).