

A specific legislation

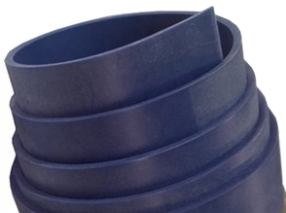
Objects meant to be in contact with food or beverages, whether is it for manufacturing, storing or packaging, must satisfy specific requirements. Regarding silicones, the French decree from November 25th 1992 and the European Regulation n°1935:2004 define those requirements.

What does the legislation say ?

Materials and objects in silicone elastomers :

- must be exclusively composed of organopolysiloxanes,
- must no alter the organoleptic qualities of the foodstuffs, products and beverages in contact with them,
- Must comply with specific criteria such as the rate of global migration allowed, purity,... , but also the research protocols for inertness.

The principle of traceability is redefined, by traceability is meant the capacity to track down all the steps of manufacturing, transformation and distribution of a material/object.



Regarding Europe thus, the manufacturing and the use of material meant to be in contact with foodstuff is regulated. In the case of a control, the manufacturer, distributor, seller,... should be able to give proof of the conformity. The list of the authorized substances is defined by the European Commission, and all new substance must be subject to a prior application for compliance. **Our silicones dedicated to the food industry are conformed to the standards.**

About the controls

The actual legislation does not focus on systematic compliance checking. Controls are done randomly or on request. Consumer protection organizations often play an alert role.

UFC-Que Choisir, a french organization, in it december magazine edition, has published the results of tests done on a selection of silicone molds sold in Europe. These molds, convenient and easy to use, are increasingly being used. The results are very instructive ! Out of 29 tested molds, 6 are without any risk for the health, 14 are in the dark, and 9 must be avoided !

The globalization and the web development have lead to a worldwide competition. With regulations that are not identical to all the countries, and controls that are too randomly done. This opens a discussion on how it is possible to prevent this kind of situation, and on how to bring more transparency to the final consumer who has the right to information ? Undoubtedly, things will need to change.

Sources :

UFC-Que Choisir silicone mold test (in french)

🔗 <https://www.quechoisir.org/action-ufc-que-choisir-test-ufc-que-choisir-sur-les-moules-en-silicone-trop-de-substances-nocives-dans-les-gateaux-n104419/>

UFC-Que Choisir article (for registered user, in french)

🔗 <https://www.quechoisir.org/comparatif-moules-en-silicone-des-residus-dans-nos-gateaux-n103991/>

Regulations :

🔗 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/LSU/?uri=CELEX:32004R1935>

🔗 https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/article_jo/JORFARTI000001771695 (in french)