



Press Release LAV 13/01/2016

**BABY FASHION AND CHEMICAL RISK:**

**THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH ORDERS THE WITHDRAWAL OF ARTICLES OF CLOTHING FROM THE MARKET CONTAINING ANIMAL FUR COMPONENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN PROVED TO BE TOXIC.**

**LAV (ANTI-VIVISECTION LEAGUE): DANGERS HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED AND REPORTED WITH OUR SURVEY "TOXIC FUR 2". THE MINISTRY SHALL IMPOSE THE DEFINITIVE BAN OF THE TRADE IN FURS**

After several tests and the complaint by LAV - Anti-Vivisection League – **the Ministry of Health stops some children items of clothing with animal fur components**: the Ministry of Health has indeed ordered to withdraw from the market the following baby-products being classified as **"dangerous products"**:

- hooded down jacket with rabbit fur, **BLUMARINE BABY** brand, for little girl, 36 months (code 357PN11)

Brand	<b>BLUMARINE BABY</b>	
Purchase date	<b>01/10/2014</b>	
Item description	<b>Down jacket (in eco-feather) with fur collar</b>	
Code	<b>357PN11 69661 COL.22616 CLG: 387 152 727 515</b>	
Age	<b>36M</b>	
Price	<b>433,00€</b>	
Animal species	<b>Rabbit – Spain origin</b>	
Coloured fur	<b>YES</b>	
Produced in	<b>Italy – SPAZIO SEI S.R.L., Via N. Ponente 40 A/B 41012 Carpi</b>	
Shop	<b>La Rinascente - Duomo</b>	
Town	<b>Milan</b>	

- Blanket in lamb fur, **Christ** brand, for infants (code V10004, supplier [www.bellicomeilsole.it](http://www.bellicomeilsole.it))

Brand	<b>Christ - www.lammfell.de</b>	
Purchase date	<b>12/09/2014</b>	
Item description	<b>Whole fur for carry-cots</b>	
Code	<b>cod. bellicomeilsole: V10004 N011 cod. Lammfell: 00042853 0068226 art.2000 col. 02 natur</b>	
Age	<b>Infant</b>	
Price	<b>49,90 €</b>	
Animal species	<b>Lamb</b>	
Coloured fur	<b>NO</b>	
Produced in	<b>Germany</b>	
Shop/Importer	<b><a href="http://www.bellicomeilsole.it">www.bellicomeilsole.it</a> Bellicomeilsole Fior di Pesco Editions Via Piave 4/a - 37036 San Martino Buon Albergo (VR)</b>	
Town	<b>e-commerce</b>	

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The Ministry of Health has taken such decision after the risk assessment made by the national health institute – Istituto Superiore della Sanità – and the subsequent complaint by LAV, as result of the Toxic Fur 2 survey (<http://www.lav.it/news/toxic-fur-2-nuova-indagine-pellicce-tossiche>) carried out by the Animalistic Association, which has shown again the presence of chemical dangerous substances within animal fur components of some samples including fashion items for children.

*“The Ministry of Health must necessarily acknowledge, as the very same Directorate General for Health Prevention has required that these items will be withdrawn from the market, that **production processes characterising furs are rarely standardisable** and so, each single fur item may contain toxic chemical and carcinogenic substances, used during tanning phase and in potentially hazardous concentrations for the consumer’s health, especially if the consumer is very young.*

*It is right, therefore, in the interest of citizens and at risk groups, to definitively ban the selling of fur items”, declared Simone Pavesi, responsible for LAV Moda Etica – Ethical Fashion.*

**Official tests lead on two seized by the Carabinieri NAS (Office against adulteration of Foodstuffs)**, have revealed very high levels of **hexavalent chromium** for the **BLUMARINE BABY** item (respectively **37,3 mg/kg** and **27,1mg/kg, against the maximum security level of 3 mg/kg** in accordance with the EU Regulation 301/2014 ).

Hexavalent chromium, besides being a carcinogenic substance, may cause allergic reactions (for ex. Contact eczema) in hypersusceptible individuals. Moreover, the BLUMARINE BABY item has a great concentration of **trivalent chromium (absorbable through the sweat glands), 168mg/kg against 18mg/kg recommended by ISS (Istituto Superiore della Sanità - Superior Health Institute)** to avoid effects of skin sensitisers.

Also for the **infant blanket**, fully composed of lamb fur, (**CHRIST brand distributed in Italy through the web site [www.bellicomeilsole.it](http://www.bellicomeilsole.it)**) they have recorded some worrying values of **trivalent chromium (absorbable through the sweat glands), 35mg/kg.**

For items **D&G** and **Woolrich brands** reported by LAV within the **Toxic Fur 2** survey (<http://www.lav.it/news/toxic-fur-2-nuova-indagine-pellicce-tossiche>) , the Ministry could not operate official tests for unavailability of those items on site lead by the Carabinieri NAS department. The Toxic Fur 2 tests have revealed the following dangerous substances:

- **WOOLRICH** (child parka bimbo 24 months, with raccoon dog fur), code **07 8055683648348 WKPCS1746**, **trivalent chromium removable from sweat 86 mg/kg, formaldehyde 96 mg/kg.**
- **D&G** (little girl coat 36 months, with rabbit fur), code **31 L51C23 FU2J5 S8292 MELANGE GREY**, **hexavalent chromium 3,5mg/kg, trivalent chromium (CR III) removable from sweat 219 mg/kg.**

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All measures of the Ministry of Health have been issued according to article 107 of the Legislative Decree 206/2005, defined as “Consumer Code”, regarding the fundamental right of health care for consumers.

With the first survey Toxic Fur, lead in 2013, LAV obtained the temporary stop in the selling of children items containing animal furs (of brands such as IL GUFO, BRUMS, MISS BLUMARINE, MINIFIX, GUCCI), that has become a definite stop for some of them and it was possible also to make official tests (Il GUFO, BRUMS, MISS BLUMARINE). <http://www.lav.it/cosa-facciamo/pellicce/pellicce-tossiche>

**LAV invites all consumers to visit the web site [www.animalfree.info](http://www.animalfree.info) where it is possible to find good advices for a safer, ethical fashion and fashion trend .**

13th January 2016

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