



Consumer organizations as core partners in a zero-tolerance approach to non- compliance

Towards toxic-free consumer lives

The Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

- Announces a **zero-tolerance approach** to non-compliance
- Targets known areas of high non-compliance, in particular **imports** and **online sales**
- Seeks to empower consumers and **consumer organisations** to improve compliance with legislation



About ICRT

Consumer focused

Joint tests on 100+ consumer product categories

Member owned

30+ independent consumer orgs own ICRT

Not-for-profit

SME working as a non-profit



World-wide

ICRT has members from across the world

Consumer reach

Reaching 30M consumers monthly via members

Quality & Cost savings

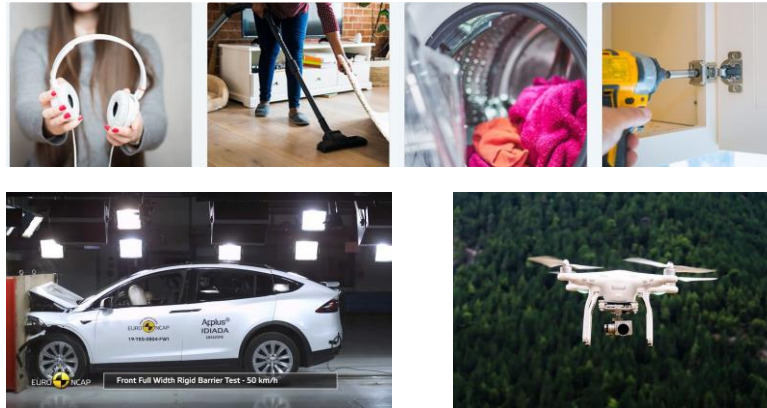
Increasing test quality and offering monetary savings

Mission & Vision



Vision

Consumers worldwide have access to a transparent and fair marketplace where they make smart, safe and secure choices



Mission

To increase the financial sustainability and impact of independent consumer organizations through global collaboration

Joint Test Categories



Mobility



Domestic Appliances



HiTech



Personal Care



DIY & Gardening



Energy



Food & Drink

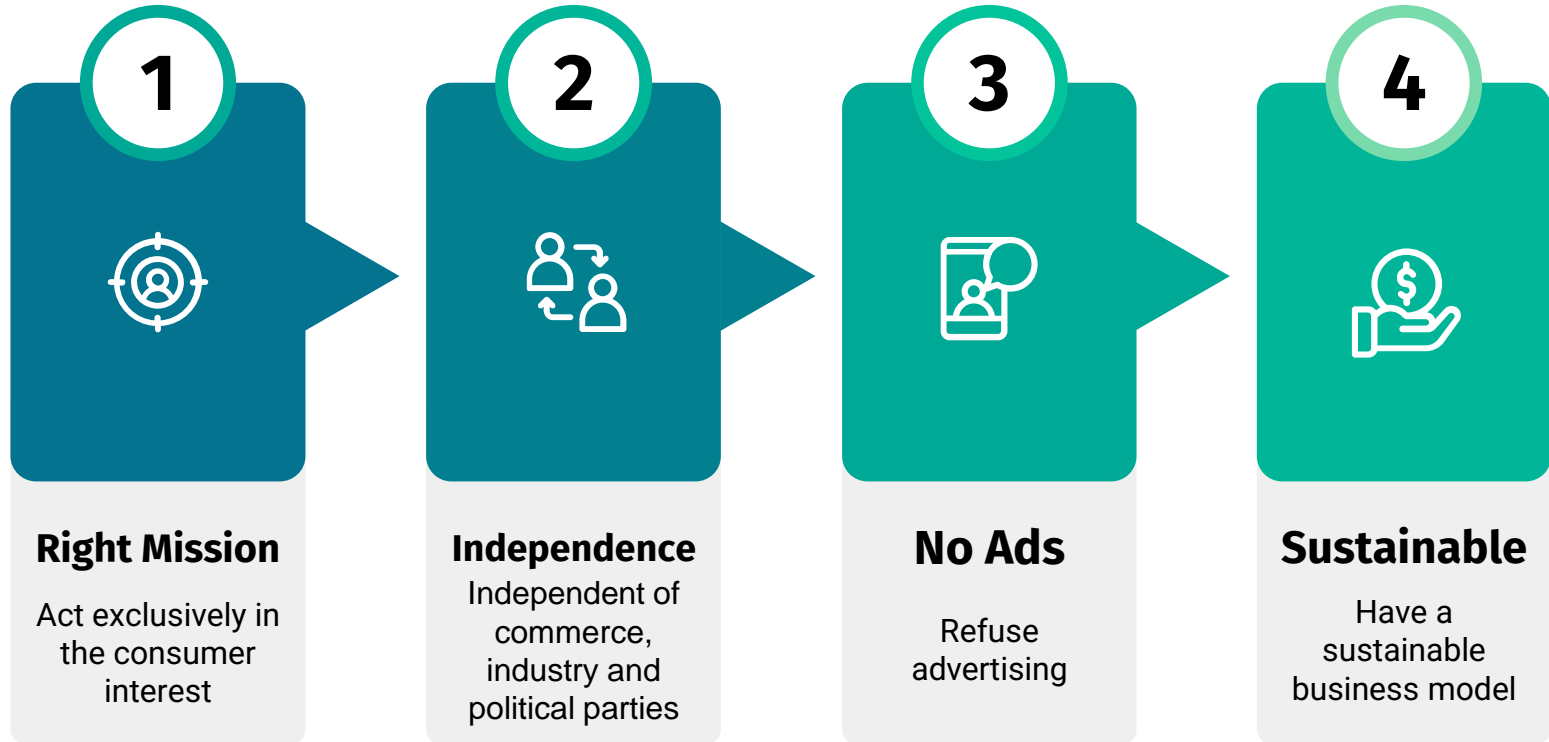


Child products



Domestic Chemicals





Rules for Becoming an ICRT Member



Members and Prospect Members of ICRT

TEST achats

 Belgium

Consumenten
bond

 The Netherlands

Stiftung
Warentest

 Germany

QUE
CHOISIR



 France

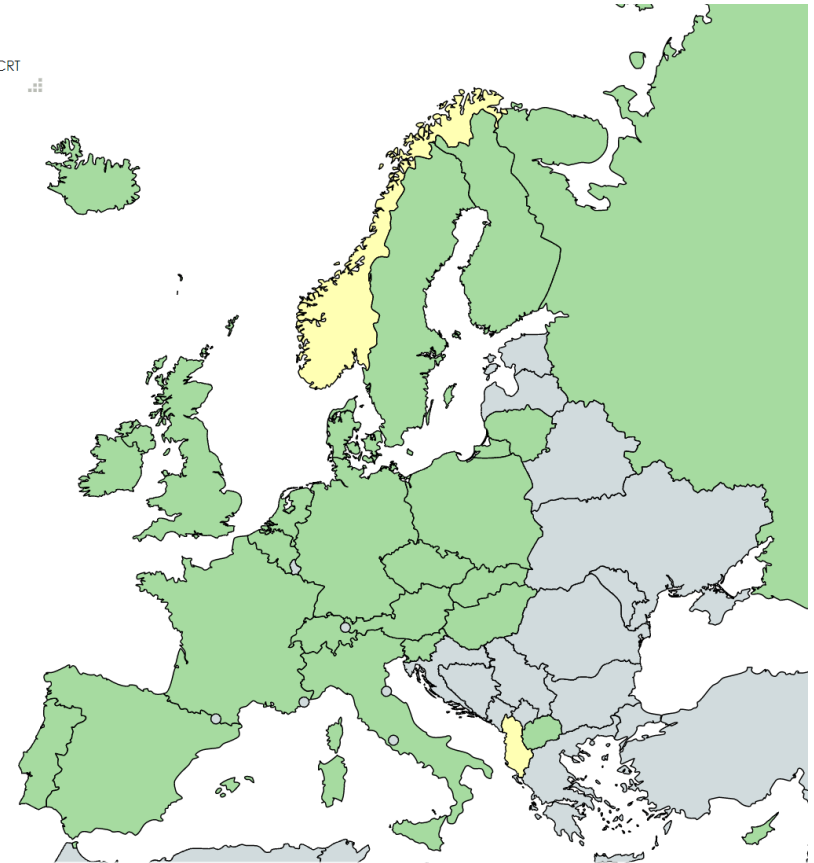
   

Which?

 UK

 Members of ICRT
 Prospect members of ICRT



How Joint Tests are Conducted



1.



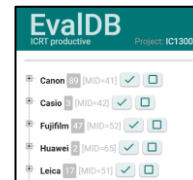
2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



Choose what to test

- Select product area
- Gather consumer needs
- Appoint project team leads

Define scope & gather team

- Form team from consumer organizations
- Team defines the scope of the test

Contract a laboratory

- Tender requests sent to qualified labs
- Select winning lab based on cost, quality, accreditation and expertise

Purchase & ship samples to labs

- Purchase products just like consumers
- Ship products to labs
- Conduct lab tests

Evaluate the results

- Analyse test results
- Agree evaluation

Publish to consumers

- ICRT members publish the results (online & print)
- At times advocacy/policy campaigns
- Media pick-up

Example: Phthalates in plastic balls

In 2018:

- Test of SVHC phthalates in 34 plastic balls
- 6 products above the limit for DEHP (0,1%) or DIBP (0,3%). Content between 15,9 to 57,6%
- Products notified to the DK-EPA



In 2021:

- Test of SVHC phthalates in 30 different plastic products
- Almost 1 out of 4 product with content of DEHP, DBP or DiBP above the limit (0,1%)
- 1 plastic ball with 20,2% DiBP
- The product notified to the DK-EPA



Example: Phthalates in plastic balls

The DK-EPA...

...has received a notification of a plastic ball from the Danish Consumer Council Think Chemicals.

...has also received their results from the laboratory analysis of the phthalate content in the ball.

...has used these results as a basis for assessing the risk to the product.

→ the product can pose a health for children up to the age of 3 y.

<https://mst.dk/service/nyheder/nyhedsarkiv/2021/jul/plastikbold-til-boern-kan-udgoere-en-alvorlig-sundhedsrisiko-for-smaaboern>

Other examples:

Slime – migration of boron

kemi.taenk.dk/bliv-groennere/test-slime-toys-release-unwanted-chemicals

Fidgetspinners – lead content and release of nickel

kemi.taenk.dk/bliv-groennere/test-fidget-spinners-can-contain-unwanted-chemicals-above-legal-limits

Jewellery (cheap) – nickel release and heavy metal content

kemi.taenk.dk/bliv-groennere/test-cheap-jewellery-nickel-release-exceeds-limit-values

Schoolbag – with phthalates

kemi.taenk.dk/bliv-groennere/test-chemicals-school-bags

mst.dk/kemi/tilsyn-og-haandhaevelse/produkter-som-overtraeder-kemikalireglerne/beginners-monster-wheels

More plastic toys – with phthalates

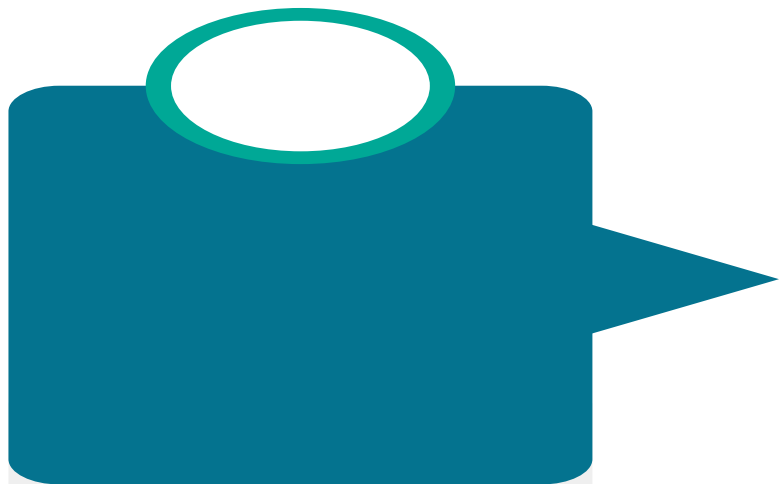
kemi.taenk.dk/bliv-groennere/toys-still-phthalates-toys-and-products-kids

Balloons – release of nitrosamines or nitrosatable substances

kemi.taenk.dk/test/test-unwanted-chemicals-balloons



Questions?



Niels Ebbe Jacobsen
niels.jacobsen@international-testing.org

Pelle Moos
safety@beuc.eu

