

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR DECORATORS AND RETAILERS**

Following in the wake of the recent round of recalls from various toy manufacturers, we have taken a look at the legislation relating to Latex and Foil balloons in respect of the use they are put to by decorators.

All balloons, whether latex or foil, are classed as toys and as such are under strict regulation as to the warnings that should be attached to them.

**The key point for decorators is that these warnings should be “Visible at the point of sale”.**

Whilst most foil balloons have the relevant warnings printed on the balloons themselves, some Solid Colour balloons from some manufacturers, and ALL latex balloons, carry the warnings on the packaging only.

**Once these balloons are removed from the packaging and used by the decorator to decorate an event, the responsibility for notifying the decorator’s customer of the applicable warnings passes to the decorator.**

Similarly, in a retail situation, if a retailer removes the balloons from the packaging and sells them to a customer as a balloon bouquet or other decoration, the retailer is responsible for advising their customer of the safety warnings.

As a retailer and / or decorator, you need to be aware of this legislation and of the relevant warnings that you need to pass on to your customers when you sell balloons to them, if those balloons are not in their original packaging.

Amscan International have prepared a document that can be printed off on your own headed notepaper (so that your contact details are shown) and given to customers so that your responsibility is discharged in the correct manner. This document is available as part of the Amscan Level 1 Training course notes, and also by emailing Chris Horne at [chrish@amscan-uk.co.uk](mailto:chrish@amscan-uk.co.uk) , or by writing to:

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