Evaluations of food contact coatings in Slovenia

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Evaluations of coatings

- No evaluation of substances prior to authorisation, no national legislation
- Assessment of the risks of non-compliances and testing of official control samples: National Laboratory of Health, Environment and Food
- Research: National Institute of Public Health in cooperation with Jožef Stefan Institute









Food contact coatings: cookware, containers, cans, coated wooden articles

Official control of substances released from the coatings:

- BPA, BADGE and derivatives, BFDGE and derivatives from epoxy coatings,
- PAAs and formaldehyde form PTFE coatings,
- terephtalic and isophtalic acid from polyester coatings
- GCMS identification of migrated substances

Quasi-ceramic coatings:

Release of Pb, Cd, Al, Cr, Fe, Ni, Zn

Articles evaluated as safe if:

- conc. of metals released is < SRL (CoE Technical Guide for Netals and Alloys)
- PAAs, HCHO, tere/isophthalic acid, BPA, other organic substances released < SML (Regulation 10/2011)
- BADGE, BFDGE and derivatives released
 - < SML (Regulation 1895/2005)

If concentrations exceed SML, SRL or substances listed as CMR:

- exposure assessment: use of EFSA Comprehensive European Food Consumption Database data
- risk characterisation





Migration testing methodology

Regulation 10/2011

According to intended use:

- selection of simulants, t and T
- in specific cases recalculation of migration test results by applying S/V ratio 6 dm²/kg food

Where possible, use of foodstuffs instead of simulants



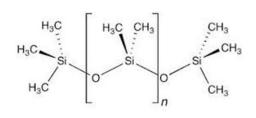
Coatings containing NPs

- Use: non-stick /self cleaning properties, better mechanical properties (increased hardness, scratch resistance), antimicrobial properties, gas barrier properties
- Substances: nano TiO₂, nano SiO₂, nano Ag, nano ZnO
- Articles: machinery, conveyor belts, cookware
- Frequency of use: worst case every day,
 cookware: average use: 2-3 X week

Our research: quasi-ceramic pan coatings

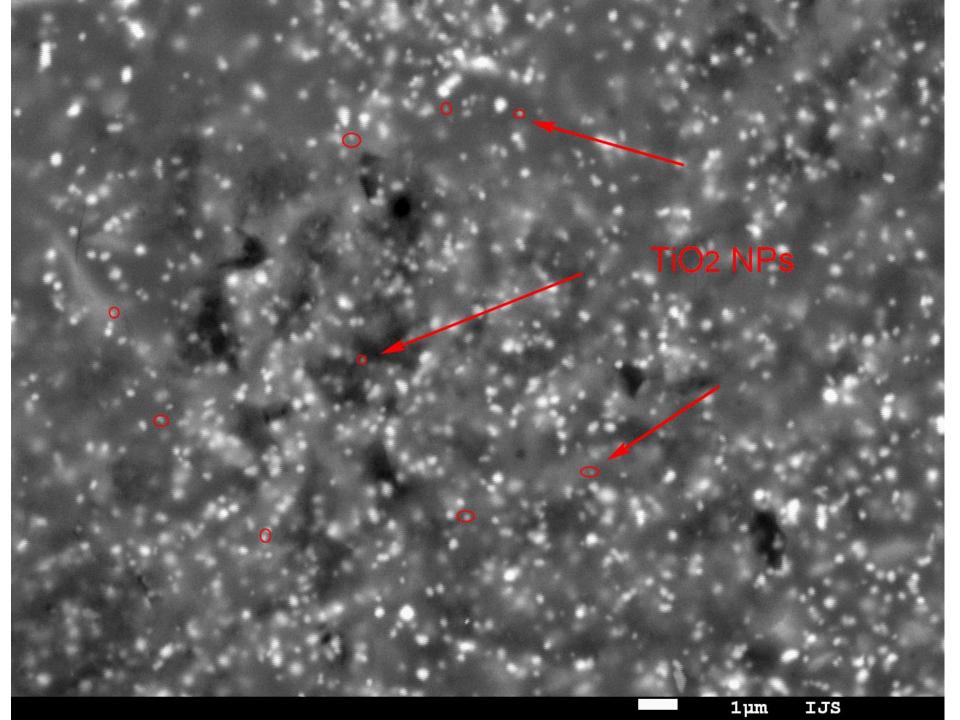


Coatings on aluminium substrate, micron- and nano-sized containing rutile TiO₂ particles and quartz SiO₂ embedded in a silicone polymer matrix.



Migration tests into simulants 3% acetic acid, deionised water and 5g/l citric acid (three succesive

tests, 2 h at 100 °C). Particles were separated from ions by ultrafiltration, Ti conc. was determined by ICP MS and recalculated to TiO_2



Main outcomes:

- Release of TiO₂ particles and Ti ions into food simulants (dissolution from the surface)
- Difference between release into 3 % acetic acid and 5g/l citric acid, the former showing the highest particle migration (861 μ g Ti/kg simulant or 1437 μ g TiO₂/kg simulant)
- Release due to mechanical abrasion of matrix (chipping nature of the coating)

- Size distribution of nano TiO₂ used for coating production is not known (commercial sample)
- Size distribution in the coating (assessed from SEM image): 70 to 200 nm
- Size distribution of the migrants in 3% acetic acid by DLS: broad (polydispersity index 0,480), D_{eff} (effective hydrodynamic diameter): 536 nm (agglomeration)