

Study: Chinese toy factories substandard

by UPI

GUANGZHOU, China -- Provincial authorities in Guangdong, China, said more than 80 percent of the toy factories in the province are substandard. They said a survey conducted of the factories resulted in export quality certificates being revoked or suspended in one-third of the facilities, The Telegraph of Britain reported Friday. The survey followed recalls issued for millions of toys that were found to have faulty designs or contain toxic paint. The Chinese government and federal quality control officials had previously said the international media and companies including Mattel were exaggerating the scope of the problems in the country's toy factories. A total 764 of the 1,726 factories inspected had their certificates revoked or suspended while 690 others were ordered by the inspectors to undergo renovations and improve the quality of their products before a set deadline. "The campaign has broken down a large number of unqualified product manufacturers and sellers," said Lai Tiansheng, who led the some-200,000 inspectors who examined the factories. "But the investigation work is a long-term task."

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