

January 28, 2026

RE: Request for category exemption for toy drones and other remote-control flying toys
that fall within the scope of products recently added to the FCC “Covered List” as Uncrewed
Aircraft Systems (UAS) and their components produced abroad

To whom it may concern:

We submit this request for conditional approval on behalf of The Toy Association (TA) and its 900+ members – including American toy brands and manufacturers, importers, designers, retailers, inventors, and toy safety testing labs – large and small – all working to ensure safe and fun play for children and families. Toy safety is our industry’s top priority, and we have been global leaders in advocating for and advancing toy safety laws, regulations and standards over many decades – including supply chain safety and security.

We respectfully request that a category exemption be considered for children’s toy drones and remote-control flying devices that currently fall within the broad scope of the recent UAS rule.

Importantly, such toys do not exhibit many of the sophisticated characteristics and capabilities of true UAS aircraft that the rule aims to restrict yet have been unable to obtain FCC-certification in 2026 despite significant differences in the way these products are designed and able to be used.

For example, many toy “drones” and remote control flying devices are distinguished by these characteristics, among others:

- **Designed and engineered exclusively as a toy as defined within ASTM F963**
Toys are tested to ASTM F963 – Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety and include products intended for children up to 14 years of age.
- **Typically lightweight, low-power, and intentionally limited in performance** to ensure safe recreational play, consistent with traditional toy design, rather than UAS aircraft.
- **Many Toys are Not Subject to User FAA registration.** They weigh 0.55 pounds or less (less than 250 grams) and are flown under the [Exception for Limited Recreational Operations](#).
- **Line-of-sight operation only**
Operation requires direct visual line of sight. Toys typically do not have GPS for autonomous wayfarer flight modes.
- **Severely limited control range**
The remote control operating range for these toys is commonly 100 feet or less, restricting operation to small indoor spaces or defined areas and preventing use in open or shared airspace.
- **Intended and marketed for indoor use only**
Some toys are explicitly intended for indoor recreational play use and their packaging, instructions, and marketing materials clearly state “For Indoor Use Only” reinforcing the

classification as a toy, rather than as UAS aircraft. Such items are not capable of outdoor operation in weather (even light winds).

- **Limited battery life**

Short flight times of these toys further restrict duration and operational capability, reinforcing their role as a brief, supervised toy experience rather than a persistent aerial system.

- **No connectivity or network capability**

Such toys commonly do not connect to cellular networks or the internet and have no onboard communication systems beyond basic point-to-point remote control. Nor do they collect, store, transmit, or share location data, imagery, audio, or any other information. There are no sensors capable of surveillance or data gathering.

- **Limited payload capability**

Typically toys are not capable of carrying any additional payload. Any added weight would limit the operation of the toy.

We would also like to emphasize the urgency of this issue for the toy industry. The annual toy trade fair, American International Toy Fair, the largest toy trade show for the U.S. market, at which new toys are first introduced for the coming seasons, is scheduled to be held February 14-17, 2026 in New York City. Yet American brands who have designed such products for import and are now impacted by the broad scope of the rule are unable to obtain FCC certification at this time. (We are aware of limited import approvals currently available under 47 CFR 2.1204 however, these are not well-suited to the manufacturing timeline typical of the U.S. toy industry.) **Given these factors and the quickly approaching event, we respectfully request priority consideration of this request for conditional approval on behalf of the toy sector as soon as possible.**

We offer The Toy Association and its members as resources to you as you consider this request. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or to discuss further.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

About The Toy Association:

Founded in 1916, The Toy Association™, Inc. is the business trade association representing businesses – small and large – involved in creating and delivering toys and youth entertainment products for kids of all ages. The Toy Association leads the health and growth of the U.S. toy industry, which has an annual U.S. economic impact of \$155.7 billion, and its roughly 900 members drive the annual \$42 billion U.S. domestic toy market. The Toy Association serves as the industry's voice on the developmental benefits of play and promotes play's positive impact on childhood development. The organization has a long history of leadership in toy safety, having helped develop the first comprehensive toy safety standard more than 40 years ago, and remains committed to working with medical experts, governments, consumers, and the industry on ongoing programs to ensure safe and fun play.