
**Izdelki za otroke in nego otrok – Držalo dude – Varnostne zahteve in
preskusne metode**

Child use and care articles - Soother holder - Safety requirements and test methods

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English Version

Child use and care articles - Soother holder - Safety requirements and test methods

Articles de puériculture - Attache sucette - Exigences de sécurité et méthodes d'essai

Artikel für Säuglinge und Kleinkinder - Schnullerhalter - Sicherheitstechnische Anforderungen und Prüfverfahren

This draft European Standard is submitted to CEN members for enquiry. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 252.

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COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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Foreword

This document prEN 12586 has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 252 “Child use and care articles”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This document is currently submitted to the CEN Enquiry.

This document will supersede EN 12586:1999.

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Introduction

Accidents caused by soothers are few and any resulting in the death of a child are almost unknown. However, a small number of children do die as a result of accidents where a soother is involved, but in these cases death almost always results from strangulation by a cord being used to hang the soother around the child's neck. Such cords are usually either home-made or made for some other purpose, e. g., a coiled keyring holder.

This standard is the first for this type of product and its main aim is to eliminate the risk of strangulation. This has only been made possible by severely restricting the length of the soother holder. The length should be sufficient for the purpose whilst not being so long that the strap could encircle the neck and strangle even the smallest of children. The lack of reported incidents involving accidents or fatalities since its introduction would suggest that the standard has achieved this main aim.

A strictly functional soother holder i. e., a pair of undecorated clips joined together by a strap is not to be considered a toy. Making either or both of the clips into simple shapes and with or without decorations by painting or printing, is not sufficient to make the product into a toy. If however, the soother holder is made more attractive; by for example the addition of a supplementary component which resembles a toy, then the entire product becomes a toy as well as being a soother holder.

When this standard was originally drafted, it was assumed that soother holders are primarily designed to attach to the child's clothing. However there are some models that are designed to attach to other articles, such as prams and push chairs. Without condoning this practice, the Technical Committee has made changes to the text, including definitions, so that such designs are required to comply with this standard.

Chemical requirements for silicone rubber, vulcanized rubber and for thermoplastic elastomers have each been considered by the Technical Committee. They have not been included in the standard at this stage and will be reconsidered when further information becomes available.

The Technical Committee considered the issues relating to azocolourants used in textiles and it is noted that these are regulated by Directive 2002/61/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council [1].

It is noted that all plastic components are regulated by Commission Directive 2002/72/EC [2]. It is also noted that Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council [3] on materials and articles intended to come into contact with food repeals Directives 80/590/EEC and 89/109/EEC.

The Technical Committee has also re-evaluated the use of nickel in parts that may come into direct contact with skin. It is noted that Commission Directive 2004/96/EC [4] sets a nickel release level of 0,2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2/\text{week}$ for post assemblies and the Technical Committee consider that this level is appropriate for metallic parts coming into contact with the skin of children.

A Normative Annex has been included which contains translations of warning phrases into the main European languages

1 Scope

This European Standard specifies safety requirements relating to the materials, construction, performance, packaging and labelling of soother holders.

It includes test methods for the mechanical and chemical requirements specified.

All products which are intended to be used to connect a soother with any other products are included in the scope of this standard.

There are some products designed for more than one role, for example a soother holder might incorporate a rattle device or a soft toy. Alternatively, the connecting strap might carry a string of decorative coloured beads. Any such products should conform to the requirements of this standard. However, as such products are also toys, the entire product should additionally meet the relevant requirements of EN 71.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 71, *Safety of toys*

EN 71-1, *Safety of toys - Part 1: Mechanical and physical properties.*

EN 71-3:1994, *Safety of toys - Part 3: Migration of certain elements.*

EN 1811, *Reference test method for release of nickel from products intended to come into direct and prolonged contact with the skin.*

EN 20105-A03, *Textiles - Tests of colour fastness - Part A03: Grey scale for assessing staining (ISO 105-A03:1993).*

EN ISO 105-E01, *Textiles - Test for colour fastness - Part E01: Colour fastness to water (ISO 105-E01:1994).*

EN ISO 105-E04, *Textiles - Test for colour fastness - Part E04: Colour fastness to perspiration (ISO 105-E04:1994).*

EN ISO 291, *Plastics - Standard atmospheres for conditioning and testing (ISO 291:1997).*

EN ISO 14184-1, *Textiles - Determination of formaldehyde - Part 1: Free and hydrolyzed formaldehyde (water extraction method) (ISO 14184-1:1998)*

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this standard, the following definitions apply:

3.1

soother holder

article which enables a soother to be secured to a child's garment or to other products (e.g. pushchair)

3.2

soother

article intended for satisfying the non-nutritive sucking need of children

3.3

garment fastener

device for securing the soother holder to another article, especially a child's garment

3.4

soother fastener

device for securing the soother holder to the soother

3.5

strap

any connecting device between a garment fastener and the soother fastener

3.6

touch-and-close fastener

device having fibre interlocking faces which are secured when pressed together

3.7

clothing fastener device

part of the garment fastener which attaches it to the clothing

3.8

press stud

fastener with two parts that engage when pressed together

3.9

ventilation holes

holes in the fasteners providing an air passage

NOTE Ventilation holes in the fasteners provide an air passage for the infant to breathe should the infant take the fasteners into and become accidentally lodged in the mouth. The holes also reduce the risk of the fasteners being sucked into the pharynx through the generation of negative pressure.

3.10

supplementary component

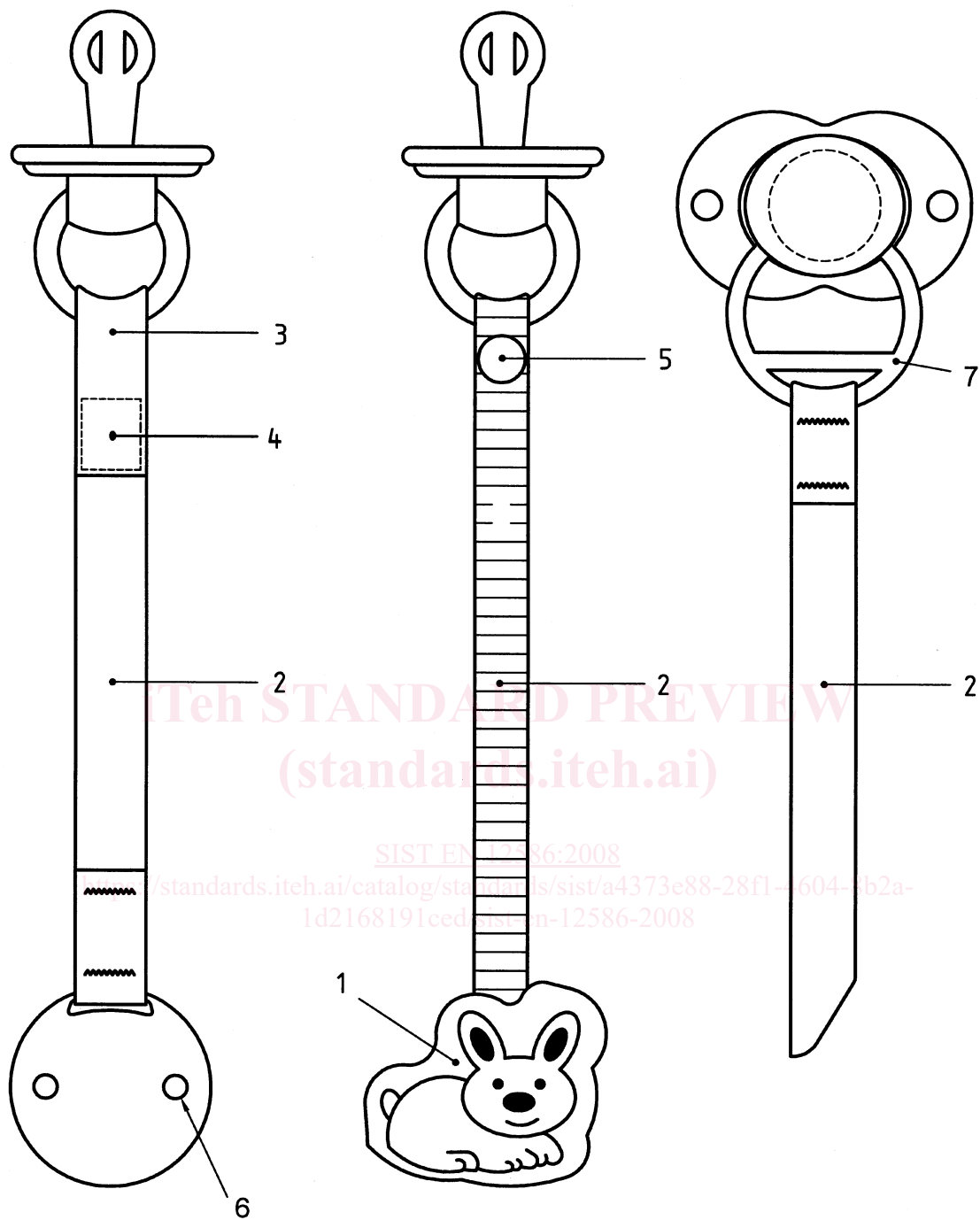
any part attached to the soother holder other than fasteners or press studs

4 Description of a soother holder

A soother holder may consist of :

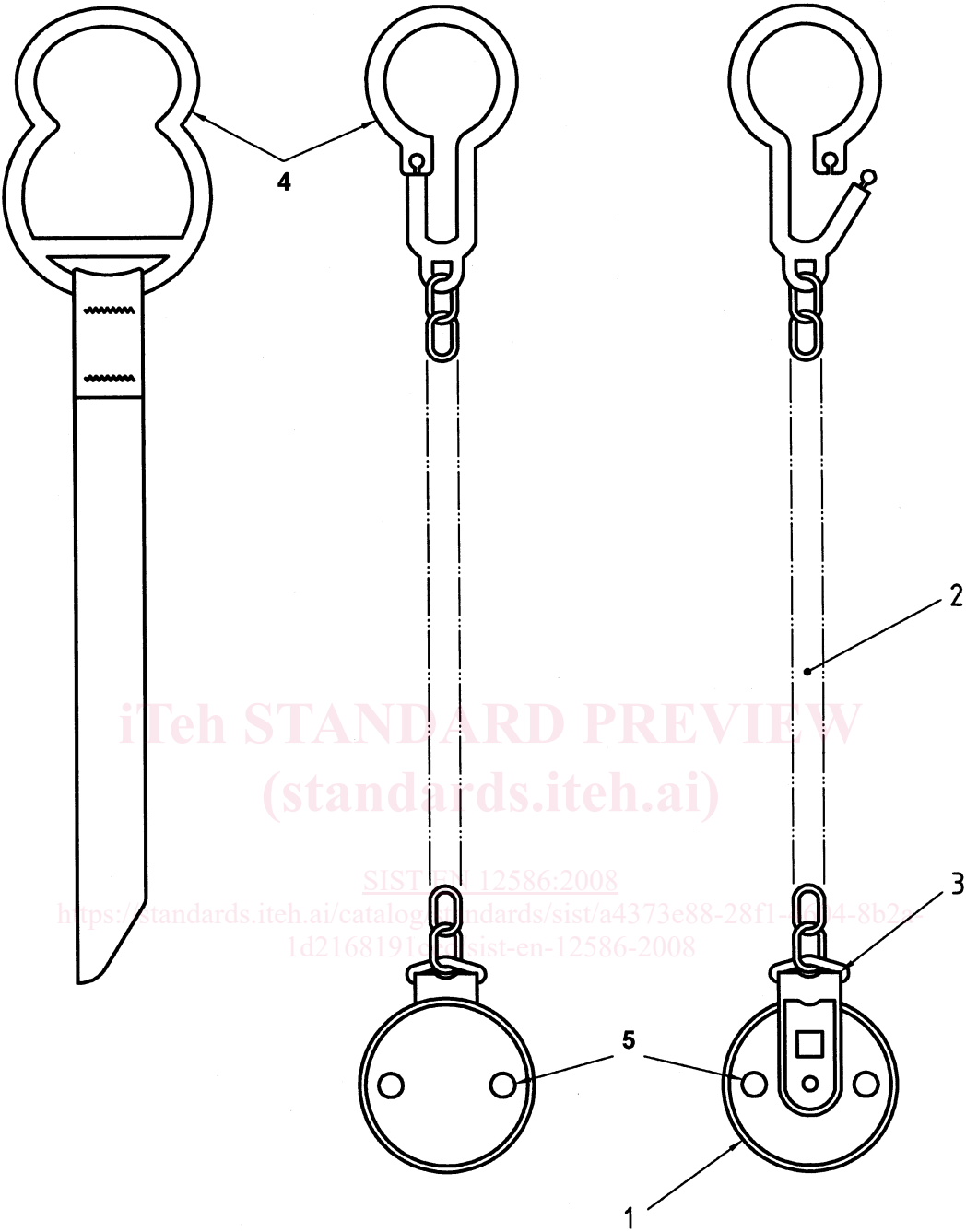
- garment fastener;
- strap;
- soother fastener;
- supplementary component(s).

NOTE See figures 1, 2 and 3.



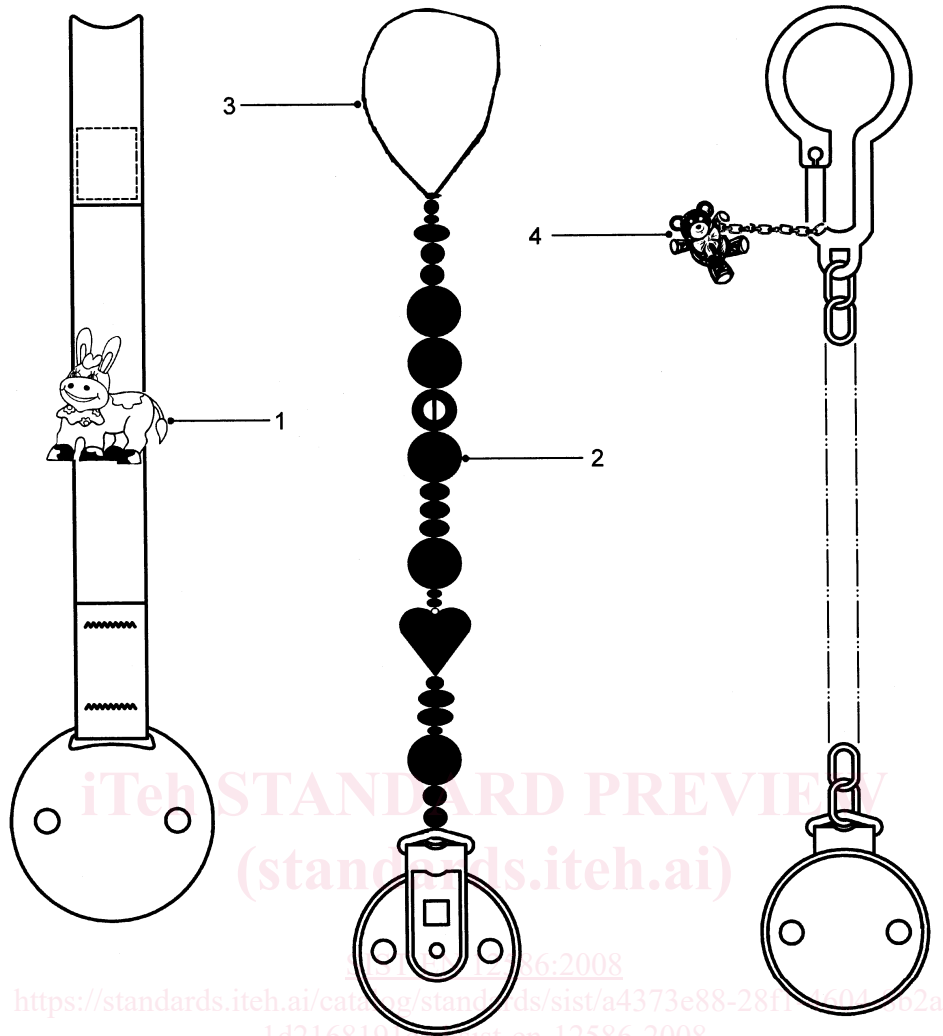
- Key**
- 1 garment fastener
 - 2 strap
 - 3 soother fastener attached to ring of soother
 - 4 touch-and-close fastener
 - 5 press stud
 - 6 ventilation hole
 - 7 soother fastener attached to knob of soother

Figure 1 - Examples of soother holders assembled with soothers



- Key**
- 1 garment fastener
 - 2 strap
 - 3 clothing fastener device
 - 4 soother fastener
 - 5 ventilation hole

Figure 2 - Examples of soother holders



Key

- 1 supplementary component attached to strap
- 2 supplementary components in the form of beads
- 3 soother fastener in the form of a loop of cord
- 4 supplementary component attached to soother fastener

Figure 3 - Examples of soother holders with supplementary components

5 Requirements

All materials of construction shall comply with the requirements in this standard.

5.1 General requirements

5.1.1 Integrity

The components of the soother holder shall be so fixed that they cannot become detached when tested in accordance with the test methods given in 6.1.7.

If there are two fasteners e.g. a garment fastener (see 3.3) and a soother fastener (see 3.4) then detachment of one of the fasteners shall not constitute a failure provided the detached fastener conforms to the requirements of 5.1.9.

If there are supplementary components then detachment of these components shall not constitute a failure provided each detached supplementary component conforms to the requirements of 5.1.10.5.

5.1.2 Visual and tactile inspection

When the soother holder is assembled for use there shall be no accessible sharp points or sharp edges. The soother holder shall be free from burrs. Safety pins are not allowed.

5.1.3 Holes (finger traps)

To avoid entrapment of fingers in any part of the soother holder, all accessible holes more than 10 mm deep shall not have an opening width between 5,5 mm and 12 mm, when tested according to 6.1.8.

This requirement only applies to components made of materials with a Shore A hardness of more than 60 IRHDs.

NOTE Circular holes not meeting this requirement present a risk of restricting the circulation. Also, non-circular holes with acute V-shaped angles or inward facing angles that are not well rounded, should be avoided.

5.1.4 Decoration

Adhesive decals and labels shall not be attached to any part of the soother holder.

NOTE 1 Adhesive decals and labels will be permitted only when satisfactory test methods have been developed.

NOTE 2 Decorations may be moulded into or imprinted on the soother holder.

5.1.5 Length

A soother holder shall have a maximum length of 220 mm when measured according to 6.1.3.

5.1.6 Strap width

The minimum width of the strap shall be 6 mm when measured according to 6.1.4.

5.1.7 Maximum size of press stud and touch-and-close fasteners or similar devices

Press stud, touch-and-close fasteners and similar devices shall not be wider than the width of the strap.

Rigid fasteners (press studs and similar devices) shall not have any measurement greater than 9 mm.

5.1.8 Permanent fasteners

At least one fastener shall be permanently attached to the strap.

Permanently attached means :

no part shall become detached when tested according to 6.1.7

and

the fastener shall not be capable of being separated from the strap by undoing a clip, press stud, touch-and-close fasteners or similar device such that the parts can be reassembled by reversing the procedure.