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Standard Specification for Labeling for Upright Brooms for Consumer and Institutional Use¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers uniform labeling criteria and package requirements for upright brooms for consumer and institutional use.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.3 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Significance and Use

2.1 Information on the wording of the labels that appear on the brooms or broom packaging will help to ensure that accurate information on material content is presented to the consumer.

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *broomcorn*—a grain sorgum of the species *Sorghum Bicolor (L.) moench*.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion*—Broomcorn has a panicle consisting of uniformly long, elastic primary branches called fibers, suitable for manufacturing of corn brooms. To test for broomcorn: first, determine that the species is *Sorghum Bicolor (L.) moench*; second, remove the primary branches one-by-one; third, determine if the primary branches are longer than 50 cm, more or less uniform in length, straight instead of wavy, branching only at the tip and not from the base, and covered with seeds only at the tip, then it is a broomcorn fiber.

3.1.2 *filler fiber*—any other type of material used to add volume or stiffness, or both, in upright broom construction.

3.1.3 *natural fiber*—any non-broomcorn vegetable fiber used in whole or part to manufacture an upright broom.

3.1.4 *upright broom*—a cleaning tool used to sweep side-to-side which has a head consisting of natural or plastic fibers affixed to a handle and is usually twine stitched to provide a flare for wider contact with the surface to be swept.

4. Classification

4.1 Brooms shall be classified and labeled according to material content.

4.1.1 *100 % Broomcorn*—Only contains broomcorn fiber.

4.1.2 *Natural Fiber*—Containing natural fiber and broomcorn with less than 100 % broomcorn fiber content.

4.1.3 *Substitute Fiber*—Containing any combination of natural and filler fiber with no broomcorn fiber.

4.2 Brooms shall be classified and labeled according to weight measure, determined as follows: the weight measure is the average weight per dozen of 2 dozen brooms, +0 lb/–1 lb/dozen for classifications 4.2.1–4.2.4, and ± 2 lb/dozen for classifications 4.2.5 and 4.2.6. Brooms must conform to minimum weight standards per classification along with other functional parameters as described by each classification. Each individual broom must be legibly labeled with the following two items in addition to any other label(s) required by this specification: (1) the type of broom as defined in 4.2.1–4.2.6; and (2) the weight of the broom stated as Size XX, where xx is the weight of the broom per dozen as defined in this section.

4.2.1 *Whisk Broom*, shall weigh 3 lb or more per dozen and constructed in a manner to be held by hand without any protruding handle.

4.2.2 *Toy Broom*, shall weigh 5 lb or more per dozen, constructed on a handle with a diameter not less than $\frac{5}{8}$ in. and not more than $\frac{7}{8}$ in., with an overall length not less than 30 in. and not more than 36 in.

4.2.3 *Lobby Broom*, shall weigh 8 lb or more per dozen, constructed on a handle with a diameter not less than $\frac{5}{8}$ in. and not more than $\frac{7}{8}$ in., with an overall length not less than 36 in. and not more than 42 in.

4.2.4 *Household Broom*, shall weigh 14 lb or more per dozen, constructed on a handle with a diameter not less than $\frac{13}{16}$ in. and not more than $\frac{15}{16}$ in., with an overall length not less than 52 in.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.54 on Brooms and Mops.

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