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Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Carriages and Strollers¹

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INTRODUCTION

This consumer safety performance specification addresses carriage and stroller incidents that were identified by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

The CPSC identified injuries to children associated with the following: stability, brakes, restraint systems, latches and folding mechanisms, structural integrity, and deaths due to entrapment in openings of convertible carriage/strollers. By far, the most common injury resulted when a child fell or climbed out of a stroller because the restraint system was not being used. In response to the incidents data developed by the CPSC, this consumer safety performance specification attempts to minimize the previously listed problems. This specification does not cover carriages and strollers that are blatantly misused, although warnings and safety instructions are required to be prominently displayed on or with each carriage or stroller.

NOTE 1—This consumer safety performance specification is not intended to address incidents and injuries resulting from the interaction of other persons with children in carriages or strollers or incidents resulting from unforeseeable abuse or misuse.

This consumer safety performance specification is written within the current state of the art of carriage and stroller technology. It is intended that this specification will be updated whenever substantive information becomes available which necessitates additional requirements or justifies the revision of existing requirements.

1. Scope

1.1 This consumer safety specification establishes safety performance requirements, test methods, and labeling requirements to minimize the hazards to children presented by carriages and strollers as identified in the introduction. Children's products such as tricycles, bicycles or other similar wheeled products that can be self-propelled by a child are not considered carriages or strollers subject to the requirements of this standard, even if the item has a temporary or permanent handle.

1.2 No carriage or stroller produced after the approval date of this consumer safety performance specification shall, either by label or other means, indicate compliance with this specification unless it conforms to all requirements herein.

1.3 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.4 The following precautionary caveat pertains only to the test method portion, Section 7, of this consumer safety specification: *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. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D3359 [Test Methods for Measuring Adhesion by Tape Test](#)

F963 [Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety](#)

2.2 Federal Standards:

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.17 on Carriages, Strollers, Walkers and Stationary Activity Centers.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

- 16 CFR 1303 Ban of Lead-Containing Paint and Certain Consumer Products Bearing Lead-Containing Paint³
- 16 CFR 1500 Hazardous Substances Act Regulations³ including sections:
 - 1500.48 Mechanical Requirements for Determining a Sharp Point in Toys or Other Articles Intended for Use by Children Under Eight Years of Age
 - 1500.49 Technical Requirements for Determining a Sharp Metal or Glass Edge in Toys or Other Articles Intended for Use by Children Under Eight Years of Age
 - 1500.50-52 Tests Methods for Simulating Use and Abuse of Toys and Other Articles Intended for Use by Children
- 16 CFR 1501 Method for Identifying Toys and Other Articles Intended for Use by Children Under Three Years of Age Which Present Choking, Aspiration, or Ingestion Hazards Because of Small Parts³
- 16 CFR 1508.07 (c)

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

- 3.1.1 *carriage, n*—wheeled vehicle generally used for the transport of an infant who is generally in a lying down position. The motive power is supplied by a person or persons pushing or pulling on a handle attached to the vehicle. A carriage may be capable of being folded for storage.
- 3.1.2 *conspicuous, n*—label that is visible, when the unit is in a manufacturer’s recommended use position, to a person standing near the unit at any one position around the unit but not necessarily visible from all positions.
- 3.1.3 *convertible carriage/stroller, n*—wheeled vehicle that is intended to be converted by the owner to be used as either a carriage or a stroller.
- 3.1.4 *harness system, n*—shall include a waist and crotch restraint and a means of restraining the upper torso.
- 3.1.5 *infant, n*—young child who is not capable of sitting unassisted.
- 3.1.6 *jogging stroller, n*—stroller intended to be used for children at a jogging rate (run at a steady slow trot).
- 3.1.7 *manufacturer’s recommended use position, n*—any position that is presented as a normal, allowable, or acceptable configuration for use of the product by the manufacturer in any descriptive or instructional literature. This specifically excludes positions that the manufacturer shows in a like manner in its literature to be unacceptable, unsafe, or not recommended.
- 3.1.8 *non-paper label, n*—any label material (such as plastic or metal) that either will not tear without the aid of tools or tears leaving a sharply defined edge.
- 3.1.9 *occupant(s), n*—that individual or those individuals who are in a product that is set up in one of the manufacturer’s recommended use positions.
- 3.1.10 *occupant retention space, n*—space enclosed by the surfaces, for example, side walls or the floor, or both, of a carriage or convertible carriage/stroller that contains the occupant within a carriage or a stroller in the reclined carriage position.
- 3.1.11 *paper label, n*—any label material that tears without the aid of tools and leaves a fibrous edge.
- 3.1.12 *reclined carriage position, n*—adjustment position of a convertible carriage/stroller that allows for an interior angle of greater than 150° between the seat surface and the backrest.
- 3.1.13 *static load, n*—vertically downward force applied by a calibrated force gage or by dead weights.
- 3.1.14 *stroller, n*—wheeled vehicle for the transport of infants or children generally in a sitting-up or semi-reclined position. The motive power is supplied by a person moving at a walking rate while pushing on a handle attached to the stroller. A stroller generally is capable of being folded for storage. Strollers normally are used for children from infancy to 36 months of age.

4. Calibration and Standardization

- 4.1 All testing shall be conducted on a concrete floor that shall be covered with 1/8-in. (3-mm) thick vinyl floor covering, unless test instructs differently.
- 4.2 The unit shall be completely assembled, unless otherwise noted, in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.
- 4.3 No testing shall be conducted within 48 h of manufacturing.
- 4.4 The product to be tested shall be in a room with an ambient temperature of 73 ± 9°F (23 ± 5°C) for at least 1 h prior to testing. Testing shall then be conducted within this temperature range.
- 4.5 All testing required by this specification shall be conducted on the same unit.

5. General Requirements

- 5.1 There shall be no hazardous points or edges as defined by 16 CFR 1500.48 and 16 CFR 1500.49 before and after testing to this consumer safety specification.
- 5.2 There shall be no small parts as defined by 16 CFR 1501 before testing or liberated as a result of testing to this specification.
- 5.3 The paint and surface-coating on the product shall comply to 16 CFR 1303.
- 5.4 Prior to testing, any exposed wood parts shall be smooth and free of splinters.

³ Code of Federal Regulations, available from U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.