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Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Home Playground Equipment[1]

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1. Scope

1.1 This consumer safety specification provides safety requirements for various types of home playground equipment intended for use by children aged from over eighteen months through 10 years. Different age limits for various requirements are found in this specification. These limits reflect the nature of the hazards and the expected mental or physical ability, or both, of the child to cope with the hazards.

1.2 Home playground equipment is defined as any product in which the support structure remains stationary while the activity is taking place and is intended for a child to perform any of the following activities: climbing, swinging, sliding, rocking, spinning, crawling, or creeping, or combination thereof. Fitness equipment is specifically excluded unless attached to the play equipment. This specification is not intended to apply to juvenile care products such as, but not limited to, infant swings, playpens/enclosures, beds, or furniture (including outdoor furniture, such as picnic tables, cradle rockers, activity centers being used as walker substitutes, bouncers, jumpers, infant carriers, and products specifically designed for therapeutic use). This specification is not intended to apply to equipment to be used in places of public assembly such as schools, nurseries, day-care centers, and parks. Equipment intended to be in child-care centers in private homes is not exempt from the requirements of this specification. Such centers are defined as situations in which the child-care provider does not care for more than six children under the age of ten that are not residing in the household of the caregiver, and the total number of children under the age of ten does not exceed ten, including the caregiver's own children.

1.3 Methods of identifying products that comply with this consumer safety specification are given. The illustrations of home playground equipment shown in Figs. A1.1–A1.4 are for informational purposes only and are not intended to limit or endorse certain types of playground equipment or equipment features. These illustrations are not intended to limit the variety or various combinations of equipment that are covered by this consumer safety specification.

1.4 The purpose of this specification is to reduce the likelihood of life-threatening or debilitating injuries.

1.5 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

1.6 If toy accessories or toy chests are attached to home playground equipment, they are applicable to this consumer safety specification and to any other applicable safety standards.

NOTE 1—See Annex A1 for figures referenced throughout this consumer safety performance specification.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*

D 2240 Test Method for Rubber Property—Durometer Hardness[2]

2.2 *Federal Standards:*

16 CFR 1303 Ban of Lead-Containing Paint and Certain Consumer Products Bearing Lead-Containing Paint[3]

16 CFR 1500 Hazardous Substances Act Regulations, including sections:[3]

1500.48 Technical Requirements for Determining a Sharp Point in Toys and Other Articles Intended for Use by Children Under 8 Years of Age

1500.49 Technical Requirements for Determining a Sharp Metal or Glass Edge in Toys and Other Articles Intended for Use by Children Under 8 Years of Age

1500.52 and .53 Test 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 3 Years of Age Which Present Choking, Aspiration, or Ingestion Hazards Because of Small Parts[3]

Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 218[4]

2.3 *Society for Automotive Engineers Recommended Practice:*[5]

[1] This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.09 on Home Playground Equipment.

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[2] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 09.01.

[3] Available from Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207.

[4] Available from National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 7th St. SW, Washington, DC 20590.

[5] Available from the Society of Automotive Engineers, 400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, PA 15096.

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