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Standard Safety Specification for Window Fall Prevention Devices for Non-Emergency Escape (Egress) and Rescue (Ingress) Windows[1,2]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 2006; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

INTRODUCTION

The consumer safety specification addresses window fall prevention devices that protect against potential falls by children age five and under from windows not designated for emergency escape or rescue in installations more than 75 ft (23 m) above ground level in multiple family dwelling buildings. This specification does not apply to devices applied to windows installed in one and two family dwellings.

A special study[3] by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission indicates that young children are at high risk of death and serious injury from window falls. Children age five and younger account for a higher percentage of window fall fatalities and injuries[4].

Window fall prevention devices usually differ in purpose and application from security/burglar bars. The general purpose of a window fall prevention device is to prevent a child age five or younger from falling from a window. The general purpose of a security bar is to prevent unlawful entry through a window. Generally window fall prevention devices and security bars are two separate devices. However, a security bar could be used as a fall prevention device if it meets the requirements of this specification.

1. Scope

1.1 This safety specification establishes requirements for devices intended to address the risk of injury and death associated with accidental falls from windows by children five years old and younger.

1.2 This safety specification applies only to window fall prevention devices that are to be used on windows that are not intended for escape (egress) and rescue (ingress).

NOTE 1—Provisional Safety Specification PS120 addresses window fall prevention devices (releasable) for windows intended for emergency escape and rescue and any other window not covered by this standard.

1.3 This safety specification applies only to devices intended to be applied to windows installed at heights of more than 75 ft[5] (23 m) above ground level in multiple family dwelling buildings. This safety specification is not intended to apply to windows below 75 ft (23 m) because all windows below 75 ft (23 m) that are operable could be used as a possible secondary means of escape.[6]

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all 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 to determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

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

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*

PS 120 Specification for Window Fall Prevention Devices with Emergency Escape (Egress) Release Mechanisms[7]

[1] This safety specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.38 on Window Fall Prevention.

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[2] This standard replaces former Provisonal Safety Specification PS 112.

[3] U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, special window falls study conducted in 1991.

[4] U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, special window falls study conducted in 1991 and "Window Safety: Data and Patterns Related to Entrapments and Accidental Falls from Windows", prepared by Anderson Corporation. (Research Report F15-1002 available through ASTM.)

[5] 1994 Uniform Building Code Handbook, Sec. 1807. (a) and 2000 International Building Code—Section 403.1 (January 2000; Published Feb. 1, 2000) – Special provisions for Group B and R1.

[6] This is the intended application of the specification unless otherwise required by applicable building code.

[7] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 15.07.

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