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Specification for Window Fall Prevention Devices With Emergency Escape (Egress) Release Mechanisms¹

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INTRODUCTION

This consumer safety specification addresses window fall prevention devices that protect against potential falls by children aged five years and under from windows.

A special study² 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 aged five and younger account for a higher percentage of window fall fatalities and injuries³.

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 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 specification is not intended to meet the unique requirements of Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

1.3 This specification applies to window fall prevention devices that are to be used on any windows, including those that are designated for emergency escape (egress) and rescue (ingress).

NOTE 1—A separate safety specification, Safety Specification F 2006, covers window fall prevention devices for non-emergency escape (egress) and

¹ This 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 U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, *Special Window Falls Study*, conducted in 1991.

³ 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 Andersen Corporation.

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