



Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Soft Infant and Toddler Carriers¹

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INTRODUCTION

This consumer safety specification is intended to address incidents reported by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) relating to soft infant carriers.

In response to the incident data compiled by the CPSC, this consumer safety specification attempts to minimize the hazards associated with these products from the following: (1) occupant retention, (2) structural integrity, (3) deficiency of consumer education regarding product use. This consumer safety specification is intended to deal with reasonably foreseeable use and misuse of the products. This consumer safety specification does not apply to products that are blatantly misused, nor does it apply to products used by consumers in a careless manner that violate normal practice or disregard the instructions or warnings provided with the product, or both.

1. Scope

1.1 This consumer safety specification establishes performance requirements, test methods and marking requirements to promote safe use of soft infant and toddler carriers.

1.2 This consumer safety specification is intended to minimize the risk of incidents to an infant from the normal use and reasonably foreseeable misuse of these products.

1.3 For purposes of definition, a soft infant and toddler carrier is a product, normally of sewn fabric construction, which is designed to contain a full term infant to a toddler, generally in an upright position, in close proximity to the caregiver. In general, the child will weigh between 7 and 45 lb (3.2 and 22 kg). The soft infant and toddler carrier is normally “worn” by the caregiver with a child positioned in the carrier and the weight of the child and carrier suspended from one or both shoulders of the caregiver. These products may be worn on the front, side, or back of the caregiver’s body with the infant either facing towards or away from the caregiver. This consumer safety specification does not include products generally referred to as “slings.”

1.4 No soft infant and toddler carrier produced after the approval date of this consumer safety specification shall, either by label or other means, indicate compliance with the specification unless it complies with all of the requirements contained herein.

1.5 This consumer safety specification is not intended to address incidents and injuries resulting from the interaction of other persons or objects with the caregiver and infant while the soft carrier is in use.

1.6 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.

1.7 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 requirements 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

F977 Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Walkers

2.2 Federal Regulations:³

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

16 CFR 1500 Hazardous Substance Act Regulations

¹ This consumer safety specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.21 on Infant Carriers, Bouncers and Baby Swings.

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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.

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