



Standard Safety Specification for Non-Integral Firearm Locking Devices¹

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INTRODUCTION

This specification is intended to establish means of determining whether locking devices applied to a firearm adequately serve the purpose of deterring the unauthorized use of firearms.

Subcommittee F15.53 on Non-Integral Firearm Locking Devices has been working to develop a performance standard for these products. Our first meeting was held in April 2001, after the Consumer Products Safety Commission and others requested that ASTM organize an effort to develop a standard for gun locks. Representatives of manufacturers, purchasers, user groups, and others have voluntarily contributed their time and energy toward a common goal.

The subcommittee defined the scope of their work to exclude lock boxes, and Subcommittee F15.55 has since been formed to work on a standard for those products. Subcommittee F15.53 decided to target a single, minimum performance standard for all devices, as opposed to defining several “grades” or performance levels. Finally, the subcommittee focused on test methods that were objective, realistic, reliable, and repeatable.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers non-integral locking devices used to increase safety on unloaded firearms.

1.2 This specification contains functional, operational, and safety requirements for non-integral firearm locking devices. Included are function descriptions, force tests, and surreptitious entry tests as set forth in Section 5.

1.3 The specification is intended to apply only to non-integral locks or locking mechanisms applied to, in, around, or about a firearm, either external to the firearm or by some method of introduction to or within the firearm. The specification is not intended to set evaluation standards by which safety levers, firing pin blocks, or other traditional discharge prevention mechanisms are evaluated, notwithstanding the fact that these mechanisms may prevent inadvertent discharge. This specification is not applicable to devices used for, or intended for, the prevention of theft or other intentional misuse of firearms.

NOTE 1—Tests described are laboratory type tests and although they may simulate some field conditions, they do not duplicate all field test conditions.

NOTE 2—There is no apparent comparable ISO/IEC standard.

1.4 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

1.5 The following precautionary caveat pertains only to the test method portions of this 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

F883 Performance Specification for Padlocks

NOTE 3—A shock impact fixture and a cutting fixture are illustrated and detailed in Specification **F883**. Fixtures shall be constructed utilizing the same designs as illustrated and detailed in Specification **F883**.

2.2 ASME Standards:

ASME B107.20M Pliers (Lineman’s, Iron Worker’s, Gas, Glass, Fence, and Battery)³

ASME B107.25M Pliers—Performance Test Methods³

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **F15** on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **F15.53** on Non-Integral Firearm Locking Devices.

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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 Available from American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), ASME International Headquarters, Two Park Ave., New York, NY 10016-5990, <http://www.asme.org>.