U.S. Mandatory Toy Standard:
ASTM F963

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These comments are those of the CPSC staff, have not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the views of, the Commission.

• Adopted as mandatory rule by CPSC, as required in the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008

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• Read-only copies available for viewing online when ASTM-I proposes revisions to CPSC
Chinese Translations

  – Both F963-07e1 and F963-08 can be included as a package in English and Chinese

• CPSC staff documents available in Chinese: http://www.cpsc.gov/businfo/corrective.html
  – Age Determination Guidelines
  – Handbook for Manufacturing Safer Consumer Products
Toy Standard Scope

• Addresses thermal, electrical, and mechanical hazards of toys, packaging, and toy chests
• Sections for prevention of choking, lacerations, strangulation, impalement, suffocation, falls, burns, poisoning, eye injuries, etc.
• Advice for matching toys to children of certain ages
ASTM Membership

- Government (non-voting)
- Manufacturers
- Consumers

- All members are volunteers
- Anyone can join ASTM-International
- Anyone may contribute proposals for revisions
- Decisions are made by consensus and voting
Toy Standard Sections

- List of other federal rules for toys
- Definitions
- Requirements
- Test methods
- Guidelines
Toy Standard Requirements

- Flammability
- Toxicology
- Electrical/Thermal Energy
- Sound Producing Toys
- Small Objects
- Accessible Edges
- Projections
- Accessible Points
Toy Standard Requirements

- Wires or Rods
- Nails and Fasteners
- Packaging Film
- Folding Mechanisms and Hinges
- Cords and Elastics in Toys
- Stability and Over-Load Requirements
- Confined Spaces
- Wheels, Tires, and Axles
Toy Standard Requirements

- Holes, Clearance, and Accessibility of Mechanisms
- Projectile Toys
- Battery-Operated Toys
- Stuffed and Beanbag-Type Toys
- Stroller and Carriage Toys
- Art Materials
- Certain Toys with Spherical Ends
Toy Standard Requirements

- Hemispheric-Shaped Objects
- Yo Yo Elastic Tether Toys
- Magnets
- Jaw Entrapment in Handles and Steering Wheels
- Toy Chests
Revision Process for CPSC Mandatory Standard

- ASTM F963 revisions sent to CPSC for review
- CPSC may reject revisions within 90 days
- Unless rejected, changes become mandatory 180 days after proposal
- CPSC rejected removal of toy chest section from ASTM F963-08, so ASTM F963-07e1 toy chest requirements remain in use with ASTM F963-08
Toy Testing Certifications

• Third party certification required for compliance with small parts rules
• Certification of other parts of toy standard temporarily deferred by Commission until February 10, 2010
• Third party laboratory accreditation procedures in development
ASTM Toy Subcommittee: Current Activities

Working groups:
Batteries in toys
  • Lithium batteries, fire prevention
Magnets in toys
  • Magnet strength, flux index, labeling
Projectile toys
  • Kinetic energy, improvised projectiles
Impaction hazards
  • Nail-shaped hazards
Emerging hazards
  • Projection hazards
Thank you!

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