

U.S. Mandatory Toy Standard: ASTM F963



Jonathan Midgett, Ph.D.
Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction

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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.

ASTM F963: Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety

- Adopted as mandatory rule by CPSC , as required in the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008
- Copyright still owned by ASTM-International – copies must be purchased at www.astm.org
- Read-only copies available for viewing online when ASTM-I proposes revisions to CPSC

Chinese Translations

- ASTM F963 available in Chinese here:

<http://www.astm.org/BOOKSTORE/COMPS/227.htm>

- 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
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- 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!

Jonathan Midgett, Ph.D.

4330 East West Highway

Bethesda, MD 20814

(301) 504-7692

jmidgett@cpssc.gov