

Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers

Household Tumble Type Clothes Dryers

AHAM HLD-1-1992

PREFACE

The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers develops standards in accordance with AHAM's "Policy and Procedures Governing Technical Standards" which states:

"AHAM Standards shall be in the best interest, mutually, of consumers who use appliances, the industries which provide and service appliances, and other interested parties. They shall relate to actual use conditions, be technically and scientifically sound and written to be understood by non-technical persons."

Use or observance of AHAM standards is voluntary.

This standard contains test procedures which may be applied to any brand or model of household tumble type clothes dryer for measuring performance. Results of tests in accordance with this standard may be publicly stated.

With regard to safety, AHAM recommends that all appliance products--both major and portable--manufactured or marketed in the United States be submitted to an appropriate independent laboratory for inspection and listing in conformance with the safety standards and procedures followed by such laboratories. The relevant standard for clothes dryers are ANSI/UL 560, "Standard for Safety, Electric Home-Laundry Equipment" and ANSI Z21.5.1 "Gas Clothes Dryers."

AHAM welcomes comments and suggestions regarding this standard. Any standard may be reviewed and improved as needed. Any interested party, at any time, may request a change in an AHAM standard. Such request should be addressed to AHAM's President, and should be accompanied by a statement of reason for the request and a suggested alternate proposal.

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1. PURPOSE

This standard establishes a uniform, repeatable procedure or standard method for evaluating the performance of home laundry equipment as indicated in Section 2.

The standard methods provide a means to compare and evaluate different brands and models of household clothes dryers regarding characteristics significant to product use.

The standard methods are not intended to inhibit improvement and innovation in product testing, design or performance.

2. SCOPE

This standard applies to home laundry clothes drying equipment as indicated in 3.1. Dryers operated for the regular use of more than one family are not included within the scope of this standard.

This standard includes methods for testing and evaluating performance of home laundry equipment of types indicated.

Dryers tested for comparison purposes are to have all deviations from specified test conditions clearly stated.

3. GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR AHAM'S PROPOSED DOMESTIC CLOTHES DRYER PERFORMANCE EVALUATION TEST PROCEDURE

3.1 Home Laundry Clothes Drying Equipment. For the purposes of this standard, home laundry clothes drying equipment is viewed as:

A power driven machine for drying fabrics by evaporation through the use of various combinations of heat, air flow and tumbling. Either electricity or gas may be used as the heat source. Dryer time may be controlled by operator preselection of the dryer time interval, or automatic control determined by measurements made by the machine.

3.2 Clothes Load. The standard mixed cotton test load (Table 1) is intended to represent clothes items regularly laundered. They are not necessarily representative of fabrics in current usage. Variations in actual consumer laundry loads are extensive and very difficult to duplicate.

The loads used in this test procedure have been found to be relatively consistent and have been used over the years to form a comprehensive database. This allows manufacturers and other test facilities to compare results over a broad span of time.

The use of synthetic fabrics has not yet been determined to be feasible, nor may ever be. This is due to continually changing formulations, compositions, etc., which are affected by various external factors, i.e., economics, petroleum supplies and consumer desires.

Review of these loads is a continuing process.