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AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD
FOR SAFETY OF
CORDED WINDOW COVERING PRODUCTS



SPONSOR
WINDOW COVERING MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE, INC.
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AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

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FOREWORD

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1. SCOPE

1.1 The members of the Window Covering Manufacturers Association, Inc. (WCMA), recognizing that unfortunate accidents, including strangulation, have occurred among young children using certain products having flexible loops made or imported by members of the industry, have prepared this Standard in cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

WCMA members have been engaged in an extensive awareness program and have also furnished millions of devices to be used in a retrofit manner to reduce the chance of user injury.

This Standard is not intended to inhibit, but rather to encourage the development of devices and methods that shall further improve the safety of products manufactured by industry members. Manufacturers and other users of this Standard are requested to submit suggestions for improvements to WCMA.

Members of WCMA, in recognition of continuing improvements to be made, shall sponsor appropriate revisions to this Standard on a regular basis.

1.2 This Standard applies to all interior drapery hardware and window covering products that incorporate bead chains, cords, or any type of flexible looped device in their operation. The items covered include the products listed in 1.3 when used in all reasonably foreseeable environments where young children are present.

1.3 Products covered include Cellular Shades, Horizontal Blinds, Pleated Shades, Roll-Up Blinds, Roller Shades, Roman Shades, Traverse Rods, and Vertical Blinds. Stock and Custom Products. (See Section 3 for definitions of these terms.)

2. GENERAL

2.1 **Objective** The objective of this Standard is to provide requirements for covered products in 1.3 that reduce the possibility of injury, including strangulation, to young children from the bead chain, cord, or any type of flexible loop device used to operate the product.

2.2 **Values** Required values given in this Standard are given in U.S. units. The SI (metric) equivalents are approximate.

2.3 **Tolerances** Where only plus or minus values are given, they are permitted to be exceeded or reduced as appropriate at the option of the manufacturers. Linear dimensions expressed without specific tolerances or are not marked maximum or minimum shall be plus or minus 1/32 in. (1 mm).

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 **Accessible Inner Cords** "Accessible" inner cords are the inner cords and or blind members, which can be accessed and pulled, to create a free standing cord loop.

3.2 **Bead Chain** A series of small spheres, equally spaced on a cord or connected by metal shafts, and used to operate a window-covering product.

3.3 **Cellular Shades** Includes those products referenced and commonly known as Honeycomb Shades. (Figure 2.) These products are manufactured using a number of natural and artificial materials, which include but are not limited to, fabric, and polyester film. Cellular shade substrates consist of multiple layers (referenced to as a single, double or triple cell construction) of material formed into tubes or cells in a horizontal orientation.

3.4 **Cord Connector** A device used to join the ends of several individual cords and provide cord(s) for operation below the cord connector.

3.5 **Cord or Bead Loop** A curving or doubling of a bead chain or cord so as to form a closed loop.

3.6 **Cord Release Device** A device which releases a cord loop when subjected to a specified load.