SRI LANKA STANDARD 608:1983

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CODE OF
SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR TOYS

BUREAU OF CEYLON STANDARDS

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SLS 608:1983

Gr. 9

BUREAU OF CEYLON STANDARDS
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Sri Lanka.

SRI LANKA STANDARD
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FOREWORD

This Sri Lanka Standard was authorised for adoption and publication by the Council of the Bureau of Ceylon Standards on 1983-04-08, after the draft, finalised by the Drafting Committee on Code of Safety Requirements for Toys, had been approved by the Mechanical Engineering Divisional Committee.

It is impossible to prescribe for every aspect of toys which may possibly present a hazard to a child and the danger factor must be kept in perspective. However, there are certain considerations which relate to many toys and they are emphasized in this standard. Accidents or incidents are frequently due to a toy being given to a child for whom it is not intended or being used for a purpose other than that for which it was designed. Great care should therefore be taken when choosing a toy. Account should be taken of the mental and physical development, sex and temperament of the child who will be using it. The requirements of the standard do not release parents and educators, from their responsibility of watching over the child while he is playing.

This standard is subject to the provisions of the Sri Lanka Food Law 26:1980 and the regulations framed thereunder.

All values in this standard have been given in SI units.

In the preparation of this standard, the assistance derived from Australian Standards Association, British Standards Institution and Singapore Standards Institute is gratefully acknowledged.

1 SCOPE

1.1 This standard sets out general safety requirements for children's toys including simulated sporting equipments. It deals only with specific points of design and construction essential for safety. This does not include performance requirements of toys and playthings other than those necessary to ensure that the toy or plaything will comply with the test requirements of this standard in order to ensure safety of the user when the toy is used in the manner intended.

1.2 This does not cover items such as table tennis balls, air guns, fireworks, genuine sporting goods or hobby crafts which involve risks inherent to themselves.

2 REFERENCES

BS 4569 Surface flash in pile fabrics

CS 67 Method for determination of colour fastness of textile materials to perspiration

SLS 579 General and safety requirements for household and similar electrical appliances.

3 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions shall apply:

3.1 **folding mechanism** : A mechanism which has an assembly of hinged, pivoted or sliding members that can produce a scissor or shear action during the normal operation of the mechanism.

3.2 **hazardous rigid projection** : A projection which, because of its material, diameter and length, could present a puncture hazard if a child should fall on it.

3.3 **hazardous sharp edge** : An edge that can cut a child's skin by moderate pressure **and/or** shearing action without undue use of force or by reasonably foreseeable abuse of the toy.

3.4 **hazardous sharp point** : A point that can puncture or lacerate a child's skin by moderate pressure **and/or** shearing action or by reasonably foreseeable abuse of the toy.

3.5 **string** : A flexible material, including monofilaments, plastics and textile tapes, that is long in relation to its width or diameter.

4 REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Material

Toys and playthings shall be constructed from materials which conform to the following requirements.

4.1.1 *Flammable materials*

4.1.1.1 Pile fabrics

Pile fabrics shall show a pass rating when tested for surface flash according to **BS 4569**.

The following groupings shall apply:

a) Toys for which washing is permissible shall be tested to BS 4569 before and after they have been washed according to the requirements given in Appendix A of this standard.

b) Toys which may be dry cleaned but must not be washed, shall be tested to BS 4569 before and after dry cleaning.

c) Toys which are sold as unsuitable for washing or dry cleaning or are made from polyester, polyamide or modified acrylic fibres shall be tested to BS 4569 without previous treatment by either washing or dry cleaning.

Composite materials such as those which combine two or more different fabrics together, shall be considered together in the form in which they are used in the product and not individually.

4.1.2 *Other materials*

Toys and playthings shall not be made from celluloid or materials of a similar flammability. If materials could present a hazard by way of fire, toxicity or other means in the particular circumstances of use for which they were designed, for example : a doll's hair, or where a toy presents a large surface area or can actually be occupied by a child, the materials used shall not be such as would limit toxic fumes.

A toy shall also not be made from or impregnated with cellulose nitrate. This requirement, however, does not prevent the use on a toy of paint, lacquer,varnish and other similar substances which contain cellulose nitrate.

4.1.3 *Extractable materials*

4.1.3.1 In the case of toys which are liable to be taken into the mouth (for example : whistles, harmonicas), or are known to be liable to be sucked by small children (for example : rattles, building blocks, soft toys) or are worn next to the skin (for example : bracelets, necklaces, face masks, glove puppets) where the effect of saliva or sweat can cause the transference of dye from the article onto the skin or clothes either;

a) The dyes used to colour them shall be selected from those listed under regulation framed under Sri Lanka food law 26:1980,

b) The toy, when tested in accordance with CS 67, shall not give a numerical rating for the change in colour of less than 4 or a staining of less than 3.

4.1.3.2 Plasticizers and substances other than the dyes mentioned above, that can be extracted under normal conditions of use in such quantities that injury may be caused to persons with when the toys or playthings came into contact, shall not be used. In

particular, compounding materials used for polyvinyl chloride (PVC) resin shall be non-toxic.

4.1.3.3 Any coating materials used shall be harmless to health. Lead and other poisonous substances, shall not be present in excess of the amounts specified in Appendix B.

4.1.4 *Metals*

4.1.4.1 Lead as a metal shall not be used.

4.1.4.2 In the case of a toy which contains any sheet metal.

a) The toy shall be so constructed that the edges of the sheet metal are not accessible to a child's fingers and cannot under normal conditions of use, become so accessible by removing any covering or part capable of being removed without the use of tools, or

b) The edges of the sheet metal shall be coated with a protective substance or folded back, except that these requirements shall not apply in relation to sheet metal of which the edges have a thickness of more than 0.5 mm and are free from burr and shall conform to requirements given in 5.8.2.

4.1.5 *Plastics*

Where plastic materials are used they shall comply with the requirement 4.1.2 and 4.1.3 and in cases where a breakage would result in sharp edges, the thickness of the section shall be sufficient to withstand reasonable usage according to design without a risk of injury. Where thin sections are essential to the function of the toy, the materials used shall be inherently tough. Plastic toys shall be properly finished so that with reasonable use they cannot harm a child. All plastic materials used for toys shall have a burning rate equal to or less than 40 mm/min. when tested as described in Appendix C.

4.1.6 *Glass*

Glass shall not be used except where it is essential to the design of the toy, in such cases, the glass shall be of shatter proof quality and adequate thickness but not less than 2 mm, and shall be securely fastened. The edges shall be clean and smooth.

4.1.7 *Fillings*

All fillings shall be clear, non-poisonous, non-irritant and harmless, containing no hard or sharp foreign matter.

Fillings known to be readily flammable should not be used under a cover that can be easily damaged and the filling exposed. The use of such fillings generally is deprecated.

4.1.8 *Rattles*

Small solid particles and similar filling material for babies' rattles

and similar hollow toys shall be made of materials which are harmless if swallowed and shall be sufficiently small so as not to cause suffocation. Smooth rounded non-poisonous seeds, smooth glass balls, sugar crystals and small plastic pellets are regarded as suitable. Baby rattles shall be sufficiently large such that it cannot get caught in an infant's throat and possibly cause suffocation.

4.1.9 *Strings and elastics*

4.1.9.1 Crib toys

The unaffixed portion of strings attached toys intended for use in cribs shall not exceed 150 mm length.

4.1.9.2 Pull toys

Strings attached to pull toys intended for use by children less than three years of age shall not exceed 600 mm in length.

4.1.9.3 Self-retracting pull strings

Self-retracting pull strings less than 1.5 mm in diameter used in 'string-acutated' mechanisms shall not exert a force greater than 4.5 N when they retract.

4.1.9.4 Strings for flying devices

Kite strings and hand-held lines attached to flying devices (other than power devices) intended for use as playthings shall not contain metallic materials.

4.1.9.5 Elastic

The unaffixed portion of elastic attached to toys intended for use by children less than two years of age shall not exceed 300 mm in length.

4.1.10 *Liquids and gases*

Liquids or gases used as a component of a toy shall not be of a type that can cause injury or ill health.

4.2 Electrical toys

4.2.1 *General*

All electrical materials and equipment in toys intended for connection to the supply mains shall comply with **SLS 579.**

The voltage of all electrical toys should be restricted to an extra low voltage of 32 volts.

4.2.1.1 All electrical toys should carry a warning that it is not safe to be operated by the children below the age of three years.

4.2.2 *Connection*

No toy shall be provided with a 2-pin or 3-pin plug capable of being pluged on to a plug base directly connected to the supply mains. In addition, any electrically operated toy shall have a label adjacent to any means of connection, drawing attention to the danger of connection to the supply mains, for example :**'WARNING - DO NOT CONNECT TO ELECTRICITY SUPPLY MAINS'.**

4.3 Clockwork and chiming mechanism

In the case of a toy incorporating a chiming mechanism containing any metal wire, spike or rod having a point which is sharp enough to inflict a wound or abrasion, the chiming mechanism shall be enclosed in a protective casing or covering which is not itself the outer casing or covering of the toy.

5 CONSTRUCTION

5.1 Folding mechanisms and hinges

5.1.1 Folding mechanisms, brackets, arms and bracings shall embody a safety stop to afford protection for the fingers against crushing in the event of sudden movement.

5.1.2 A toy having a gap along the hinge line between 2 portion, such as the gap at the hinge between a lid or door and the body of the toy, shall be so constructed that the accessible gap at or adjacent to the hinge line is less than 5 mm or greater than 12 mm at all positions of the hinge.

5.2 Stability and strength of larger toys

These toys shall not break when tested as described in Appendix D. They shall also meet the following appropriate requirements with regard to stability.

5.2.1 All ride-on toys, excluding wheeled toys, shall not tip backward or forward when placed on a 15-degree slope such that the backward facing or forward facing direction of the toy is down and parallel to the slope.

5.2.2 All ride-on toys, excluding wheeled toys, shall not tip side-ways when placed on a 10-degrees slope such that the forward facing direction of the toy is transverse to the slope.

5.2.3 Wheeled toys with steering mechanism shall have this mechanism constructed with due regard to safety and robustness, and in particular the stability of vehicle shall be ensured by the adoption of suitable stops on the steering mechanism which limit the movement of the wheels so that the balance of the vehicle is not disturbed.

5.2.4 All ride on wheeled toys shall have its wheels so constructed to have a solid web with no openings so as to prevent any risk of entanglement.

5.2.5 Generally, all such toys shall have no sharp edges or corners or any unnecessary projection which could prove dangerous in normal use.

5.3 Swings, climbing frames, slides and similar constructions

5.3.1 On such structures, suspension hooks and shackles shall have a sound fixing so that it is impossible for them to become detached accidentally and they shall in themselves be of dimensions and material adequate to withstand normal wear and tear. Swing seats shall be light in weight, whilst giving adequate strength, to minimize the hazard from a chance blow and shall have well rounded edges and corners.

5.3.2 Swing seats with a safety bar designed for young children shall have the suspension points situated above the level of the safety bar in order to prevent over balancing by the child leaning over the bar. Swings for very young children should be so constructed to afford adequate protection against the child falling out.

5.3.3 Means for clamping down or fixing or otherwise stabilizing swings and other apparatus for use out of doors shall be provided to minimize the risk of slipping or overturning.

5.3.4 Clear instructions for maintenance and erection shall be given and the importance of any necessary periodic lubrication shall be duly emphasized.

5.4 Rust proofing

Toys intended for use out of doors and made wholly or essentially of ferrous metal, tubes, fittings and casings shall be adequately protected against corrosion by, for example, stove enamelling, galvanizing, metal spraying or painting. Drainage holes at lower level shall be provided in tubular framework to prevent any accumulation of water.

5.5 Wooden toys

Timber which is intended to bear the weight of a child shall be of adequate strength and good quality, without defects to last a reasonable period of time. All woodwork shall be smoothly finished on all edges, corners and surfaces. Screws shall be used in preference to nails. Screws other than round head screws shall be countersunk.

5.6 Soft toys and dolls

5.6.1 Where any component made of glass, metal, wood, plastics or other non-pliable material is attached to a toy as part of facial

features the component shall either:

a) be so embedded in the toy that it cannot, under normal conditions of use, be gripped by a child's fingers or teeth; or

b) be attached to the toy in such a manner that it cannot be removed or loosened by applying a force of 90 N.

5.6.2 Devices used for joining together parts of soft toys shall be such as not to constitute a danger from sharp edges or points if they become exposed. Attached eyes, noses and similar applied parts on soft toys should not be of glass. Suitable plastics materials should be used. That part of an eye or similar attachment forming the means of fastening shall not be left as a sharp spike, if it should become seperated from the body or the attachment. If adhesives are used for joining they shall be of a non-toxic variety.

5.7 **Perambulator toys**

Elastic used for toys for attaching across a perambulator should have an extensibility of not more than 75 per cent of the unstretched length and a fully stretched length of not more than 750 mm.

5.8 **Wires, spikes and rods**

Wires used in toys shall not break when tested as described in Appendix E.

5.8.1 In the case of a toy which contains any metal wire, spike or rod having a point which is sharp enough to inflict a wound or abrasion.

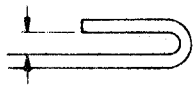
5.8.1.1 The toy shall be so constructed that the point is not accessible to a child's fingers and cannot under normal conditions of use, become so accessible by penetrating any covering material or by the removal of any covering or part capable of being removed without the use of tools.

5.8.1.2 The end of the wire, spike or rod shall be bent back so as to form a loop, except that these requirements shall not apply in relation to a point which is essential to the intended function or operation of the toy.

5.8.2 *Edges*

The accessible edges of toys shall be so designed as to reduce risk of injury. The following means are deemed to meet that requirement.

For accessible edges of sheet metal, the edges may be folded, rolled or spiralled (See Figure 1, Figure 2 and Figure 3).

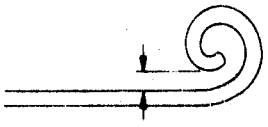


l_1 = 0.7 mm maximum

FIGURE 1 - Folded edge, less than 270°

l_2 = 1.5 mm maximum

FIGURE 2 - Rolled edge between 270° and 360°



No limit specified for l_3

FIGURE 3 - Spiralled edge, more than 360°

5.9 Noise levels

Toys which emit a continuous or spasmodic noise in normal use shall be controlled in intensity to a level below that at which a child's hearing is likely to be impaired.

5.9.1 *Peak noise levels*

Toys shall not produce impulsive type noise or explosive like noise exceeding 105 dB(A) when the noise production mechanism of the toy is situated 250 mm from the microphone and the meter is set on fast response.

5.9.2 *Noise levels of long duration*

Toys shall not produce noise levels in excess of 75 dB(A) for noise of long duration when the noise production mechanism of the toy is situated at a distance of 25 m from the microphone and the meter is set on slow response.

5.10 Small objects in mouth-actuated toys

Mouth-actuated toys that contain loose objects, such as spheres in a whistle, or inserts such as reeds in a noisemaker, shall not release an object or part of an object of such a size that it will fit within a sphere 32 mm in diameter when the air is alternatively blown and sucked rapidly through the mouthpiece in accordance with the procedure described in Appendix F.

5.11 Protective helmets, hats and goggles

A toy that covers the face shall be constructed of impact-resistant material which when tested in accordance with Appendix G shall not fracture.

6 PACKAGING

6.1 Fastener hazards

6.1.1 Packages that are intended to be opened by the purchaser shall,

a) Be so constructed as to avoid, during the opening process, hazards from metal fasteners; and

b) Not contain common pins used to position the toy within the package.

6.2 Flexible packaging

Flexible plastic bags used for packaging of toys having an opening perimeter greater than 380 mm shall have a minimum thickness of 0.038 mm. The means for closing the bag shall not be a drawstring or cord.

6.2.1 The thickness requirement is deemed to be complied with if the average plastics thickness, measured over an area of 100 mm x 100 mm, is not less than 0.038 mm.

6.2.2 The requirement for thickness does not apply to shrunk-on film packaging which is normally destroyed when the packaging is opened by the user.

6.2.3 A warning on the risk of suffocation shall be printed on the flexible plastic bags as follows:

'PLASTIC BAGS CAN BE DANGEROUS, TO AVOID DANGER OF SUFFOCATION KEEP THIS BAG AWAY FROM BABIES AND CHILDREN'.

7 MARKING

Each article shall be marked legibly and indelibly with the following informations:

a) Manufacturer's name and address and brand name (if any);

b) Registered trade mark (if any);

c) All warnings should be marked in Sinhala, Tamil and English; and

d) Any other information required by the purchaser.

APPENDIX A

WASHING PRIOR TO TESTING

Sufficient material should be used to permit subsequent preparation of test specimens of the size and number required for the method of test for flammability.

The fabric is treated in a suitable mechanical washing device for a period of 30 minutes with sufficient washing liquor to give a ratio of cloth to liquor of 1 : 10 m/v.

Hard water is used for the washing treatment and this is prepared by adding to natural water of known hardness, sufficient calcium chloride and sodium bicarbonate to raise the hardness to the standard value of 320 mg/l. (expressed as calcium carbonate). Let the water have initial hardness of n mg/l. To 0.9 litre of this water add a solution consisting of 2.19 (320-n) mg of calcium chloride hexahydrate dissolved in 50 ml of water. Then add with stirring a solution consisting of 1.68 (320-n) mg of sodium bicarbonate dissolved in 50 ml of water. The washing liquor contains the following per litre of the prepared hard water of hardness 320 mg/l:

1 g dodecyl benzene sodium sulphonate

1.5 sodium tripolyphosphate (anhydrous)

0.5 g sodium perborate

0.5 g sodium silicate $Na_2O : SiO_2 = 1 : 2$ (anhydrous)

1 g sodium sulphate (anhydrous)

Washing temperature shall be as follows:

Cotton and linen fibres	80 °C to 85 °C
Man-made fibres	55 °C to 60 °C
Wool and silk fibres	38 °C to 40 °C

When fabrics composed of mixture or blends of fibres are being tested they shall be treated as follows:

a) Fabrics containing 25 per cent or more of wool: Wash seperate samples at each of the temperature appropriate to the individual components.

b) All other fabrics : Wash at the highest temperature of those appropriate to the individual components.

Owing to the instability of sodium perborate, it is essential that this chemical be added to the hot washing liquor immediately prior to the cloth. This can be done most conveniently by making up a solution containing all the other chemicals, raising to the required temperature in the washing machine, and then adding the perborate in the form of a measured quantity of a standard solution, followed within two or three minutes by the specimens of fabrics.

The standard perboarate solution must be prepared within an hour of use by stirring the powder in cold water until dissolved.

Containing vessels of glass or stainless steel are suitable for the washing machine, but jars of brass or copper must not be employed.

After 30 minutes the fabric is removed from the washing liquor rinsed in three changes of the prepared hard water at a temperature of about 40 °C and excess water removed (for example : by centrifuge or mangle). It is dried at about 105 °C and is then available for testing to **BS 4569**.

APPENDIX B

Maximum amounts of poisonous substances that could be present in coating material.

Element	Content	Maximum Concentration (mg/kg)
Lead	total	2 500
Arsenic	total	100
Cadmium	Solu ble only	100
Barium	Solu ble only	500
Antimony	Solu ble only	250
Chromium	Solu ble only	250
Mercury	Solu ble only	100

The term soluable means capable of being dissolved by the following method.

B.1 METHOD OF DISSOLVING SOLU BLE MATTER CONTAINED IN DRY PAINT*

A sample of the dry paint film shall be comminuted as to be capable of passing through a sieve of wire cloth of 0.5-mm (500 micron) aperture.

The sample so comminuted shall be mixed with 50 times its mass of an aqueous solution (at a temperature not lower than 20 °C nor higher than 22 °C) of hydrochloric acid containing 0.25 per cent by mass of hydrogen chloride (0.07 N HCl) and the mixture shall be shaken continuously for one minute. The mixture shall be tested for acidity and, if its pH value is more than 1.5 and aqueous solution of hydrochloric acid containing 7.3 per cent by mass of

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* *The term paint includes lacquer, varnish and other similar substances.*

hydrogen chloride (2N HCl) shall be added drop by drop (the mixture being shaken after each drop is added) until the pH value is 1.5 or less. The mixture shall then be shaken continuously for one hour.

After shaking, the mixture shall be allowed to stand for one hour and shall then be filtered. The resulting solution shall then be analysed for soluable poisonous substance.

APPENDIX C

FLAMMABILITY TEST

C.1 PREPARATION FOR TEST

At least ten test specimens, 125 ± 5 mm in length by 12.5 ± 0.2 mm in width, and of the thickness of material normally supplied, shall be cut from sheet or moulded from each of the samples to be tested. Each test specimen shall be marked by scribing a line 100 mm from one end of the specimen. The edges of the test specimens shall be smooth. Sawed edges should be fine sanded to a smooth finish.

C.2 PROCEDURE

The specimen shall be clamped at the marked end in a support with its longitudinal axis horizontal and its transverse axis inclined at 45 degrees to the horizontal. Under the test specimen, a screen of wire gauze (approximately 100 by 100 mm) shall be clamped in a horizontal position 10 mm below the edge of the specimen and with about 13 mm of the specimen extending beyond the edge of the gauze as shown in Fig. 4.

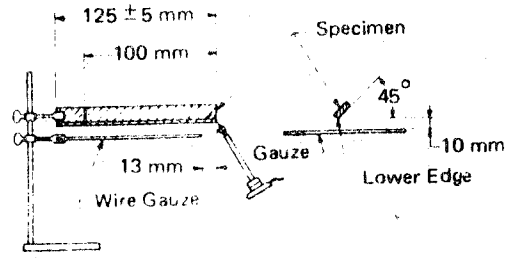


FIGURE 4 - Apparatus for flammability test

A 10-mm diameter bunsen burner with air ports open shall be adjusted to produce a blue flame approximately 25 mm high. The burner shall be placed so that the tip of the outer cone of the flame contacts the end of the test specimen, and the stop watch shall be started simultaneously. The flame shall be applied for 30 s. If the specimen warps, melts or shirnks away from the flame, the flame shall be moved to keep it in contact with the specimen. At the end of 30 s, the flame shall be removed and placed at least 450 mm from the specimen and the hood closed.

The watch shall be stopped when burning or glowing combustion has ceased or when it has proceeded to the mark 100 mm from the free end.

C.3 The burning time shall be noted and the rate of burning in mm/min shall be determined and recorded.

APPENDIX D

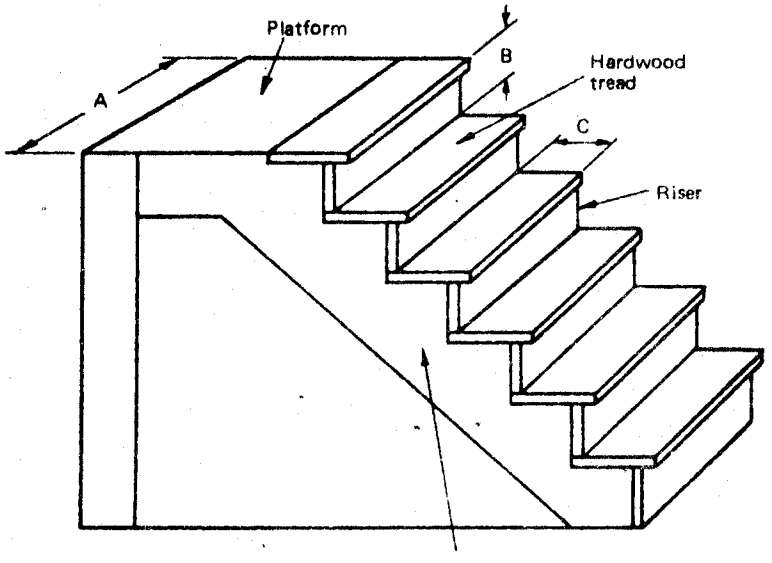
IMPACT TEST FOR RIDE-ON TOYS

Each toy shall be tumbled down a flight of six steps with risers not less than 150 mm high, as shown in Fig. 5. Each toy shall be allowed to fall down the steps twice in each of the following three configurations:

a) tumbling end to end;

b) rolling along the long dimension or side; and

c) sliding or rolling on the wheel base.



Dimensions : A shall be not less than 1 m
B shall be not less than 150 mm
C shall be not more than 250 mm

FIGURE 5 - Apparatus for impact test for ride-on toys

APPENDIX E

BENDING TEST FOR WIRES

The wire shall be clamped between two parallel 10 mm rods so that a free end of 150 mm projects perpendicular to the rods. A tube 150 mm long that is less flexible than the wire and not more than 6 mm in internal diameter shall be slipped over the free end of the wire to within 12 mm of the clamping point. The tube and wire shall then be bent 25 times through an arc of ± 90 degrees perpendicular to the clamping rods without the wire breaking.

APPENDIX F

TEST FOR MOUTH - ACTUATED TOYS

A piston pump or similar positive displacement device capable of discharging and taking in more than 300 ml of air in less than 3 seconds shall be connected to the mouthpiece of the toy. The toy shall be subjected to ten alternative blowing and sucking cycles of 300 ml of air then inspected for the release of objects.

APPENDIX G

IMPACT TEST FOR TOYS THAT COVER THE FACE

The toy shall be held firmly with the portion that covers the eyes in a horizontal plane. A steel ball 15 mm in diameter having a mass of approximately 14 g shall be dropped from a height of 1.25 m onto the horizontal upper surface of the toy. The ball may be guided but not restricted, in its fall by being dropped through a tube extending to within approximately 100 mm of the toy. The material shall be considered to have fractured if it cracks through its entire thickness or if any material visible to the naked eye becomes detached.

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