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Standard Safety Specification for Safety Labeling of Inflatable Air Mattresses¹

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INTRODUCTION

Since 2010 (until Jan. 1, 2021), the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has received reports of 83 deaths, mostly infants younger than 8 months of age, who were placed to sleep on air mattresses. Forty-two (42) were co-sleeping, 25 suffocated on the air mattress, and 16 died as a result of suffocation after falling into gaps between the air mattress and bed frame or the air mattress and adjacent furniture or wall.

1. Scope

1.1 This safety specification provides safety labeling requirements for use of inflatable air mattresses (also known as “air beds,” collectively referred to herein as “product”).

1.2 The intent of this safety specification is to reduce infant and child deaths and injuries caused by suffocation and entrapment on inflatable air mattresses.

1.3 This safety specification covers all product sizes, including, but not limited to, full, queen, king, and twin sizes.

1.4 This safety specification covers products intended for indoor and outdoor use, including camping and recreational uses.

1.5 This safety specification does not cover products designed specifically for use in Durable Infant and Toddler Products (such as play yards, cribs, non-full-size cribs, etc.).

1.6 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.7 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.63 on Inflatable Air Mattresses.

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2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ANSI Standards:*²

[ANSI Z535.4 Product Safety Signs and Labels](#)

[ANSI Z535.6 Product Safety Information in Product Manuals, Instructions, and Other Collateral Materials](#)

3. Labeling Requirements—Product

3.1 Each product shall be labeled with warnings.

3.2 Warnings shall be in contrasting colors, in sans serif font, visible to the person inflating the product into its use position(s), and permanent. Permanent is defined as the warnings remaining legible when an attempt is made to remove them without the aid of tools or solvents.

3.3 Warnings shall use ANSI Z535.4 as a guide with respect to legibility, type of lettering, color, and symbol. An example of the warnings is shown in [Fig. 1](#).

3.4 The safety alert symbol “ Δ ” and the signal word “**WARNING**” shall be in bold typeface and in uppercase letters not less than 0.24 in. (6 mm) high. The remainder of the text shall be characters whose upper case shall be at least 0.12 in. (3 mm) high.

3.5 Warning statements shall address the following:

3.5.1 Babies Can Suffocate.

3.5.2 To prevent suffocation and death, never place a baby 15 months old or younger on this product.

3.5.3 Child entrapment hazard. Always position product 1 ft (30 cm) or more away from objects such as walls and dressers to prevent a child from being entrapped.

3.5.4 Keep product fully inflated when in use.

² Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.