



Designation: F 2085 – 01

Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Portable Bed Rails¹

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INTRODUCTION

This consumer safety specification addresses portable bed rail incidents that were identified by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

In response to incident data supplied by the CPSC, this consumer safety specification attempts to minimize the following type of potential hazard through labeling requirements: entrapment between the portable bed rail and mattress. Entrapment of a child by the head or neck can result in asphyxiation.

This consumer safety specification is written within the current state-of-the-art of portable bed rail technology. It is intended that this specification will be updated whenever substantive information becomes available that necessitates additional requirements or justifies the revision of existing requirements.

This consumer safety specification is not intended to cover bed rails that are either blatantly misused or used in a careless manner that disregards the safety instructions in the warning statements provided with each bed rail.

1. Scope

1.1 This consumer safety specification establishes general requirements and requirements for labeling the unit, the retail package, and instructional literature.

1.2 This consumer safety specification is intended to minimize incidents to children resulting from normal use and reasonably foreseeable misuse of portable bed rails.

1.3 For the purpose of this consumer safety specification, a bed rail is a portable bed rail intended to be installed on an adult bed to prevent children from falling out of bed. These bed rails are intended for children who can get in and out of an adult bed unassisted (typically from 2 to 5 years of age.)

1.4 No bed rail as defined in 3.1.2 that is produced after the approval date of this consumer safety specification shall, either by label or other means, indicate compliance with this specification unless it conforms to all the requirements contained herein.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 3359 Test Methods for Measuring Adhesion by Tape Test²

2.2 Federal Standards:³

16 CFR Part 1303 Ban of Lead-Containing Paint and Certain Consumer Products Bearing Lead-Containing Paint

16 CFR Part 1500 Federal Hazardous Substances Act Regulations, including Sections:

1500.48 Technical Requirements for Determining a Sharp Point in Toys and Other Articles Intended for Use by Children Under 8 Years of Age

1500.49 Technical Requirements for Determining a Sharp Metal or Glass Edge in Toys and Other Articles Intended for Use by Children Under 8 Years of Age

1500.50-.53 Test Methods for Simulating Use and Abuse of Toys and Other Articles Intended for Use by Children

16 CFR Part 1501 Method for Identifying Toys and Other Articles Intended for Use by Children Under 3 Years of Age which Present Choking, Aspiration, or Ingestion Hazards Because of Small Parts

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 *arm, n*—for the purpose of this specification, a device(s) attached to a bed rail that extends between the mattress and mattress foundation and is intended to secure the bed rail to the bed.

3.1.2 *bed rail, n*—a portable railing installed on the side of

¹ This consumer safety specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.11 on Bed Rails.

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² See *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 06.01.

³ *Code of Federal Regulations*, available from U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

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an adult bed which is intended to keep a child from falling out of bed.

3.1.3 *permanent, adj*—a marking or label shall be considered permanent if, during an attempt to manually remove it without the aid of tools or solvents, it cannot be removed, or it tears upon removal, or such action damages the surface to which it is attached.

3.1.4 *conspicuous, adj*—a label that is visible, when the portable bed rail is in the manufacturer's recommended use position, to a person standing near the unit at any one position around the unit but not necessarily visible from all positions.

3.1.5 *nonpaper label, adj*—any label made of fabric or other material (such as plastic or metal) which either will not tear without the aid of tools, or tears leaving a sharply defined edge.

3.1.6 *paper label, adj*—any label material (except fabric) which tears without the aid of tools and leaves a fibrous edge.

4. General Requirements

4.1 There shall be no hazardous sharp points or edges as defined by 16 CFR 1500.48 and 16 CFR 1500.49.

4.2 There shall be no small parts as defined by 16 CFR 1501.

4.3 Any exposed wood parts shall be smooth and free from splinters.

4.4 The bed rail shall conform to 16 CFR 1303.

4.5 Warning labels (whether paper or nonpaper) shall be permanent when tested per 6.1-6.3. Warning statements applied directly onto the surface of the product by hot stamping, heat transfer, printing, wood burning, etc. shall be permanent when tested per 6.4. Nonpaper labels shall not liberate small parts when tested in accordance with 6.5.

5. Marking and Labeling

5.1 Each product and the retail packaging shall be marked clearly and legibly to indicate the following:

5.1.1 Name and place of business (city, state and mailing address, including zip code, or toll-free number) of the manufacturer, importer, distributor, or seller.

5.1.2 Model number, stock number, catalog number, item number, or other symbol expressed numerically, or otherwise, such that only articles of identical construction, composition, and dimensions shall bear identical markings. The manufacturer shall change the model number whenever a significant structural or design modification is made that affects its conformance with this consumer safety specification.

5.1.3 Code mark or other means that identifies the date (month and year as a minimum) manufactured.

5.2 Any upholstery label required by law shall not be used to meet the requirements of 5.1.

5.3 Each product and the principle panel of the retail packaging shall have warning statements. The warning statements shall be in contrasting colors, permanent, conspicuous, and sans serif style font. The warning statements shall be preceded by the safety alert symbol "△" and the word "WARNING." The word "WARNING" and the safety alert symbol shall not be less than 0.20 in. (5 mm) high. The remainder of the text shall be characters whose upper case shall be at least 0.10 in. (2.5 mm) high.

5.3.1 The warning statements shall include exactly as stated below:

If a child's head or neck or body is trapped between the bed rail and bed, death or serious injury may occur.

Use only on an adult bed with mattress and box springs.

Use only for children who can get in and out of an adult bed unassisted.

Never use in place of a crib.

Never use on a bunk bed, waterbed, a bed with an inflatable mattress, or a toddler bed.

To prevent entrapment, the minimum distance between the headboard/footboard and the bed rail shall be at least 9 inches.

Always keep bed rail pushed firmly against the mattress.

5.4 These warnings shall be visible on the product when in the manufacturer's use position. If not, an additional conspicuous label using the safety alert symbol "△," the word "WARNING," and a description of the location of the warnings shall be provided. The same character size requirements are to be followed for this warning as described in 5.3.

6. Permanency of Labels and Warnings

6.1 A paper label (excluding labels attached by a seam) shall be considered permanent if, during an attempt to remove it without the aid of tools or solvents, it cannot be removed, it tears into pieces upon removal, or such action damages the surface to which it is attached.

6.2 A nonpaper label (excluding labels attached by a seam) shall be considered permanent if, during an attempt to remove it without the aid of tools or solvents, it cannot be removed or such action damages the surface to which it is attached.

6.3 A warning label attached by a seam shall be considered permanent if it does not detach when subjected to a 15-lbf (67-N) pull force applied in any direction using a 3/4-in. (19-mm) diameter clamp surface.

6.4 Adhesion test for warnings applied directly onto the surface of the product.

6.4.1 Apply the tape test defined in Test Method B, Cross-Cut Tape Test of Test Methods D 3359, eliminating parallel cuts.

6.4.2 Perform this test once in each different location where warnings are applied.

6.4.3 The warning statements will be considered permanent if the printing in the area tested is still legible and attached after being subjected to this test.

6.5 A nonpaper label, during an attempt to remove it without the aid of tools or solvents, shall not be removed or shall not fit entirely within the small parts cylinder defined in 16 CFR 1501 if it can be removed.

7. Instructional Literature

7.1 Instructions shall be provided with the bed rail and shall be easy to read and understand. Assembly, maintenance, cleaning, operating and adjustment instruction and warnings, where applicable, shall be included.

7.1.1 The instructions shall contain statements, which are stated exactly as the warning statements in 5.3.1 and the following: Discontinue use if damaged, broken or if parts are missing.

7.2 Warning statements located within the instructional literature shall meet the same requirements as specified in 5.3.1.