Designation: F1967 – 19

Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Bath Seats[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F1967; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

INTRODUCTION

This consumer safety specification is intended to address certain incidents associated with the use of bath seats, bath rings, and other similar devices.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) identified drowning incidents which generally involved infants either tipping over, climbing out of, or sliding through the product after being left unattended by their caregiver.

This specification does not address incidents in which bath seats are unreasonably misused, are used in a careless manner that disregards the warnings and instructions that are provided with each product, or those instances where the caregiver leaves the infant unattended in the product.

This consumer safety specification is written within the current state-of-the-art product technology. It is intended that this specification will be updated whenever substantive information becomes available and known to ASTM which necessitates additional requirements or justifies the revision of existing requirements.

1. Scope

1.1 This consumer safety specification establishes performance requirements, test methods, and labeling requirements to promote the safe use of infant bath seats. Products commonly referred to as bath rings also are included in the scope of this specification. Traditional infant bath tubs that are used to bathe an infant are not within the scope of this standard.

1.2 This consumer safety specification is intended to reduce the risk of death and minimize injury to infants resulting from use and reasonably foreseeable abuse of infant bath seats.

1.3 No infant bath seat 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 requirements contained herein.

1.4 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.5 The following precautionary caveat pertains only to the test methods portion, Section 7, of this specification: *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.*

1.6 *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.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*[2]

D3359 Test Methods for Rating Adhesion by Tape Test
F404 Consumer Safety Specification for High Chairs
F963 Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety
F977 Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Walkers

2.2 *Federal Regulations:*[3]

16 CFR 1303 Ban of Lead-Containing Paint and Certain Consumer Products Bearing Lead Containing Paint
16 CFR 1500 Federal Hazardous Substances Act Regulations, including sections:

[1] This consumer safety specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.20 on Bath Seats.

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[2] For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

[3] Available from U.S. Government Printing Office Superintendent of Documents, 732 N. Capitol St., NW, Mail Stop: SDE, Washington, DC 20401.

16 CFR 1500.48 Technical Requirements for Determining a Sharp Point in Toys and Other Articles Intended for Use by Children Under 8 Years of Age
16 CFR 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
16 CFR 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
Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act

2.3 *ANSI Standards:*[4]
ANSI Z535.1 Safety Colors
ANSI Z535.4 Product Safety Signs and Labels
ANSI Z535.6 Product Safety Information in Product Manuals, Instructions, and Other Collateral Materials

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *bath seat, n*—an article that is used in a bath tub, sink, or similar bathing enclosure and that provides support, at a minimum, to the front and back of a seated infant during bathing by a caregiver. This does not include products that are designed or intended to retain water for bathing.

3.1.2 *conspicuous, adj*—visible, when the product is in all manufacturer's recommended use positions and an occupant is sitting in the product, to an adult caregiver near the product at any one position around the product but not necessarily visible from all positions.

3.1.3 *double action release system, n*—a mechanism requiring either two consecutive actions, the first of which must be maintained while the second is carried out, or two separate and independent simultaneous actions to fully release.

3.1.4 *installation components, n*—components of the infant bath seat that provide the means of installation to the adult bath tub, including, but not limited to, clamps, arms, suction cups, and pads.

3.1.5 *locking and latching mechanism, n*—method of preventing a bath seat from folding or collapsing during use.

3.1.6 *manufacturer's recommended use position(s), n*—any position that is presented as a normal, allowable, or acceptable configuration for the use of the product by the manufacturer in any descriptive or instructional literature. This specifically excludes positions which the manufacturer shows in a like manner in its literature to be unacceptable, unsafe or not recommended.

3.1.7 *nonpaper label, n*—any label material, such as plastic or metal, that either will not tear without the aid of tools or tears leaving a sharply defined edge or labels made of fabric.

3.1.8 *occupant, n*—infant that is in an infant bath seat in any manufacturer's recommended use position(s).

3.1.9 *paper label, n*—any label material that tears without the aid of tools and leaves a fibrous edge.

3.1.10 *principal display panel, n*—that part of the product's package that is most likely to be displayed, presented, shown or examined under normal or customary conditions of display for retail sale.

3.1.11 *protective component, n*—any component used for protection from sharp edges, points, or entrapment of fingers or toes.

3.1.11.1 *Discussion*—Examples of protective components include caps, sleeves, and plugs.

3.1.12 *stability, n*—ability of a bath seat to remain upright in all of the manufacturer's recommended use positions.

3.1.13 *static load, n*—vertically downward load applied by weights or other means.

4. Calibration and Standardization

4.1 Unless otherwise noted, the bath seat shall be completely assembled in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

4.2 The product to be tested shall be in a room with an ambient temperature of 73 ± 9°F (23 ± 5°C) for at least 1 h prior to testing. Testing then shall be conducted within this temperature range.

4.3 All testing required by this specification shall be conducted on the same unit.

5. General Requirements

5.1 *Hazardous Sharp Edges or Points*—There shall be no hazardous sharp points or edges as defined in 16 CFR 1500.48 and 16 CFR 1500.49 before or after the product has been tested to this consumer safety specification.

5.2 *Small Parts*—There shall be no small parts as defined in 16 CFR 1501 before testing or liberated as a result of testing to this consumer safety specification.

5.3 *Lead in Paints*—All paint and surface coatings on the product shall comply with the requirements of 16 CFR 1303.

5.4 *Latching and Locking Mechanisms:*

5.4.1 Products that fold shall have a latching and locking mechanism or other means to prevent collapse of the product when it is installed in any manufacturer's recommended use position(s).

5.4.2 During and upon completion of the test in accordance with 7.1.1, the product shall remain in the manufacturer's recommended use position, and the latching and locking mechanism shall remain engaged and operative.

5.4.3 Products designed with a latching and locking mechanism shall comply with either 5.4.3.1 or 5.4.3.2.

5.4.3.1 Product shall be designed with a single action release mechanism that shall not release when tested in accordance with 7.1.2.

5.4.3.2 Product shall be designed with a double action release system.

5.4.4 Latching and locking mechanisms shall also comply with all requirements in 5.4 after cycling has been conducted in accordance with 7.1.3.

5.5 *Scissoring, Shearing, and Pinching*—The product, when in the manufacturer's recommended use position(s), shall be

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

designed and constructed to prevent injury to the occupant from any scissoring, shearing, or pinching when members or components rotate about a common axis or fastening point, slide, pivot, fold or otherwise move relative to one another. Scissoring, shearing, or pinching that may cause injury exists when the edges of the rigid parts admit a probe greater than 0.210 in. (5.33 mm) and less than 0.375 in. (9.53 mm) in diameter at any accessible point throughout the range of motion of such parts.

5.6 *Openings*—Holes or slots that extend entirely through a wall section of any rigid material less than 0.375-in. (9.53-mm) thick and admit a 0.210-in. (5.33-mm) diameter rod shall also admit a 0.375-in. (9.53-mm) diameter rod. Holes or slots that are between 0.210 in. (5.33 mm) and 0.375 in. (9.53 mm) and have a wall thickness less than 0.375 in. (9.53 mm) but are limited in depth to 0.375 in. (9.53 mm) maximum by another rigid surface shall be permissible (see Fig. 1 for examples). The product shall be evaluated in all manufacturer's recommended use positions.

5.7 *Protective Components*—If the child can grasp protective components between the thumb and forefinger, or teeth, or if there is at least a 0.04 in. (1.0 mm) gap between the component and its adjacent parent component, such component shall not be removed when tested in accordance with 7.2.

5.8 *Requirements for Toys*—Toy accessories attached to, removable from, or sold with infant bath seats, as well as their means of attachment, shall comply with the applicable requirements of Standard Consumer Safety Specification F963.

5.9 *Labeling:*

5.9.1 Warning labels, whether paper or nonpaper, shall be permanent when tested in accordance with 7.3.1 – 7.3.4.

5.9.2 Warning statements applied directly onto the surface of the product by hot stamping, heat transfer, printing, wood burning, etc. shall be permanent when tested in accordance with 7.3.1 and 7.3.5.

5.9.3 Nonpaper labels shall not liberate small parts when tested in accordance with 7.3.6.

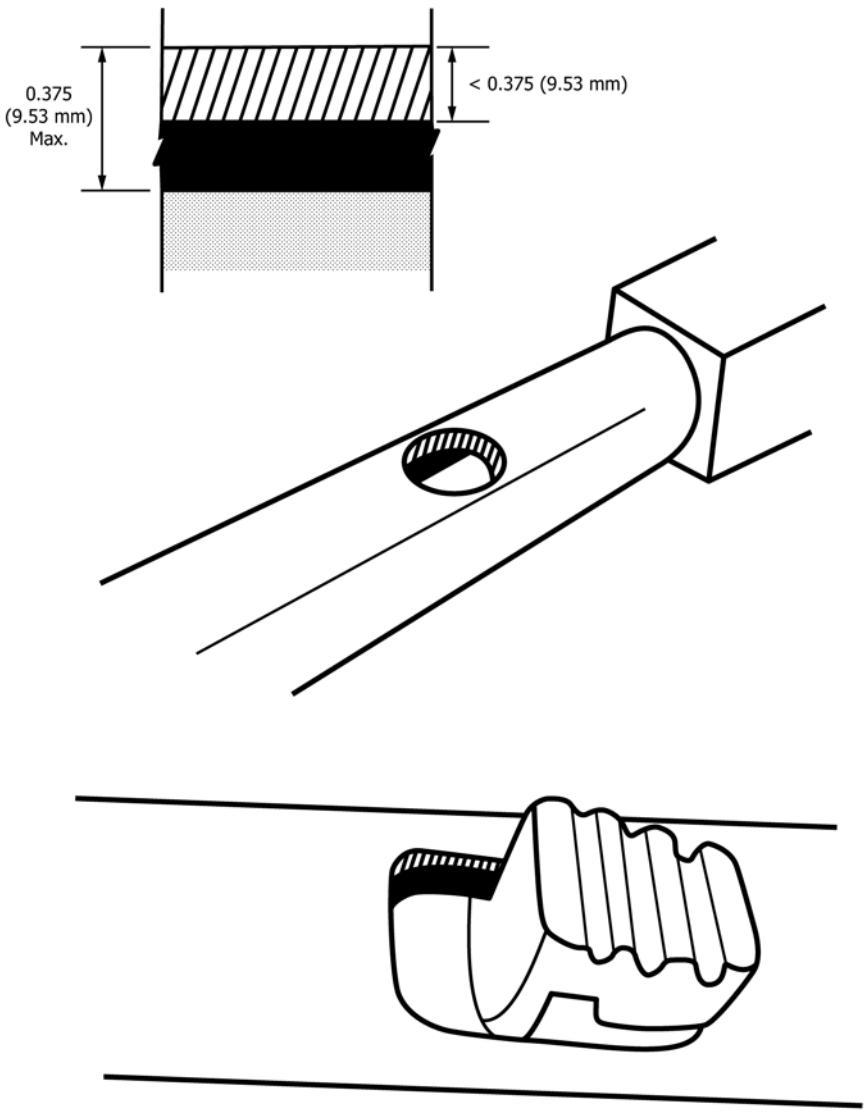

FIG. 1 Opening Examples