

SAFEGUARDS

SGS CONSUMER TESTING SERVICES

SOFTLINES

NO. 192/10 NOVEMBER 2010

THIRD PARTY TESTING: FLAMMABILITY OF CHILDREN'S MATTRESS AND MATTRESS PADS

Effective November 17th, 2010, a general conformity certification (GCC) based on testing by an approved third party testing laboratory is required for all children's mattresses and mattress pads that are subject to the [Standard for the Flammability of Mattresses and Mattress Pads \(FF 4-72, Amended\), 16 CFR Part 1632](#) and [Standard for the Flammability \(Open Flame\) of Mattress Sets, 16 CFR Part 1633](#).

Earlier this month the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) proposed an amendment to the 16 CFR 1632 which sets requirements for smoldering ignition resistance of mattress products.

The proposed rule would amend section 4(a)(2) of the regulation to specify the use of a Standard Reference Material (SRM) cigarette¹, developed under an Interagency Agreement (IAG) between the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) & the CPSC. The smoldering ignition source currently required in the standard Unfiltered Pall Mall Cigarette² is no longer being produced.



1. Federal Register: November 1, 2010 (Volume 75, Number 210) Page 67047-67054, CPSC Docket No. CPSC-2010-0105]

2. The same commercial brand of the cigarette is also specified in several smoldering flammability test standards for cushion foam and other upholstered furniture components. The selection of a new SRM cigarette for the Federal standard does not imply the same cigarettes can be used for other non-federal standards.

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The proposal would not change the way in which the test method is performed. The SRM Cigarette described in the proposal is a non "Fire-Safe Cigarette (FSC)" developed by NIST to approximate the same ignition characteristics intended in the original standard and would not alter the stringency of the flammability performance test.



SPECIFICATIONS	NEW SRM CIGARETTE	UNFILTERED PALL MALL CIGARETTE
Normal Length	83 mm ± 2 mm	85 mm ± 2 mm
Tobacco packing Density	0.270 g/cm ³ ± 0.02 g/cm ³	0.270 g/cm ³ ± 0.02 g/cm ³
Mass	1.1 g ± 0.1g	1.1 g ± 0.1g
Ignition Strength	70% - 95% Full Length Burn (PFLB)	

The recommended ignition strength range reflects the three oldest vintages of the Pall Mall Cigarette tested by NIST and represent the worst-case ignition source. The new SRM Cigarette would be designated SRM 1196. It is available for purchase from the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

CPSC is seeking Comments on its new proposal for Mattress Standard no later than January 18th 2011. To ensure timely processing of comments, the Commission is no longer accepting comments submitted by electronic mail (e-mail) except through <http://www.regulations.gov>.

SGS can provide wide range of Flammability tests, please feel free to contact us for more information.

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