Canadian Furniture Requirements

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OVERVIEW

- Legislative and Regulatory Framework
  - Mechanical Hazards
  - Chemical Hazards
  - Flammability Hazards
- Voluntary Standards
LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Legislation
• *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act (CCPSA)*
  General Prohibition: It is prohibited to manufacture, import, advertise or sell *any* consumer product that is a “danger to human health or safety”

Regulations
• *Cribs, Cradles and Bassinets Regulations*
• *Surface Coating Materials Regulations*
• *Phthalates Regulations*

Standards
• May be incorporated by reference in Regulations or used to address hazards without specific Regulations.
MECHANICAL HAZARDS

- Deformation and breakage of hardware on traditional crib drop sides
- Hazards associated with crib mattress supports
- Entrapment hazards from openings in fabric-sided products

- *Crib, Cradles and Bassinets Regulations*, recently amended on June 29, 2016 and will come into force on December 29, 2016
  - Requirements apply to all sleep products for infants
  - Prohibition on the sale, importation, manufacture and advertisement of traditional drop-side cribs
  - Performance requirements and test methods for accessories for cribs, cradles and bassinets and stands for cribs, cradles and bassinets
**CHEMICAL HAZARDS**

- **Surface Coating Materials Regulations**
  - Furniture and other articles for children must not have a surface coating material that contains more than **90 mg/kg of total lead**

- **Phthalates Regulations**
  - Vinyl in a toy or child care article must not contain more than **1,000 mg/kg of phthalates (DEHP, DBP, BBP, DINP, DIDP, DNOP)**.

- Applies to soft vinyl children’s toy furniture and soft vinyl child care articles that facilitate sleep or relaxation, such as vinyl crib mattresses, vinyl cradle or bassinet pads and vinyl inflatable beds.

- Does not apply to general-use children’s furniture (like vinyl covered chair that isn’t a toy) or general-use household furniture (like full size bean bag chair or vinyl covered mattresses)
Chemicals Management Plan

- Initiative aimed at reducing the risks posed by chemicals to Canadians and their environment
- Substances in furniture may be affected by assessment conclusions
- Actions can be taken under CCPSA or the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* (CEPA)

- Flame retardant substances, such as polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PDBEs), hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD), tris (2-chloroethyl) phosphate (TCEP)

- Ten (10) additional organic flame retardant substances are currently under assessment with decisions, including possible use restrictions, to be published in Fall 2016.
Upholstered Furniture

• No specific regulations on upholstered furniture

• There are various measures industry can take:
  
  • UFAC – cigarette smouldering test + labelling that indicates it’s been tested

  • Meet, at minimum, the safety requirements of applicable consensus-based standards
    – Examples: California’s Technical Bulletin 117-2013, ASTM E1353 (for cigarette smouldering ignition testing only)

• Select less flammable materials

• Use of fire barriers
Voluntary Standards

Furniture Tip-Over

- ASTM F2057 – 14 Standard Safety Specification for Clothing Storage Units
  - Reduces injuries and deaths of children from hazards associated with tip-over of free-standing clothing storage units such as chests, door chests, and dressers, over 762 mm (30 inches) in height.
  - Sets out tests to demonstrate products are stable even when not fastened to a wall.
  - Health Canada recently informed industry that compliance with the standard will be considered as a factor when assessing whether or not a product poses a tip-over hazard.
Crib's, Cradles and Bassinets

- In Canada, the size of the sleeping surface determines whether a product must meet requirements for cribs, cradles, or bassinets. Any product designed for child sleep must meet these requirements.

- Canada’s regulations apply to all sleep products for infants, but in the US some are unregulated.

- In Canada, the slope requirement for the sleeping surface for all sleep products is 7 degrees or less. The U.S. has 10 degrees or less for bassinets, and also allows sleep products over 10 degrees that meet other requirements.
RESOURCES

Canada Consumer Product Safety Act and its Regulations
• http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/c-1.68/

Consumer Product Recalls web-page
• http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/recall-alert-rappel-avis/index-eng.php

Subscribe to Consumer Product Safety News
• http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/advisories-avis/_subscribe-abonnement/index-eng.php

Health Canada, Product Safety Laboratory, Test Methods
• http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/prod-test-essai/index-eng.php

Chemicals Management Plan
• http://www.chemicalsubstances.gc.ca

Upholstered Furniture Action Council (UFAC)
• http://www.ufac.org
THANK YOU

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http://www.healthycanadians.gc.ca