

Updates for Furniture Test Standards (4) – Draft Australian/New Zealand Standard for Stability Performance of Domestic Furniture

Concerning the safety hazards arising from the children climbing on the domestic freestanding furniture such as tipping of the furniture items causing injury to, or even death of the children, the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CS-088/091 (Commercial/Domestic Furniture) has prepared a **draft Australian/New Zealand Standard (DR 09052 CP) “Domestic furniture – Freestanding chests of drawers, wardrobes and bookshelves/bookcases – Determination of stability”** to evaluate the stability performance of the domestic freestanding furniture.

Scope :-

This draft standard applies to the following furniture items constructed of any materials.

- **Freestanding chests of drawers over 500 mm high** that may contain doors, shelves, drawers or other extendible elements, in various configuration.
- **Freestanding wardrobes over 500 mm high** that may contain drawers, doors or other extendible elements, fixed shelves or a combination of them.
- **Freestanding bookshelves / bookcases over 600 mm high** that may contain doors, drawers or other extendible elements.



Performance Requirements :-

Furniture items are considered to have failed the requirements of this draft standard if:

- Apart from the minor fittings, the furniture items that fracture and therefore cannot accept full application of the test mass or force as described in the stability test.
- Furniture items that tip over, or are only prevented from tipping by an extendible element, when subjected to the stability test.

Labels, Instructions and Marking :-

- All **labels and relevant instruction sheets** supplied with the furniture item shall provide sufficient details and be unambiguous, legible and written in English. Requirements of the warning labels (for both complying and non-complying furniture items), warning symbols and swing tags are illustrated in Appendix A and Appendix B of this draft standard.
- Furniture items shall show the **name and contact address** of the manufacturer or distributor, **model name/number** of the item and the **country of manufacture**.

This draft standard (**DR 09052 CP**) is now opened for public comments until 18 August, 2009. As soon as this draft is finalized, it will be renumbered to **AS/NZS 4935**. Copies of the draft can be accessed through:

<http://infostore.saiglobal.com/store/Details.aspx?ProductID=1129016>

<http://shop.standards.co.nz/drafts/DR09052-DR09052.pdf>

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