

ICS 97.140

English Version

Furniture - General safety guidelines - Entrapment of fingers

Ameublement - Lignes directrices générales de sécurité
- Coincement des doigts

Möbel - Allgemeine Sicherheitsleitfäden -
Fingerfangstellen

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European foreword

This document (CEN/TR 17202:2018) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 207 "Furniture", the secretariat of which is held by UNI.

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Introduction

This document is a non-normative CEN publication which provides guidance information on the common hazards that should be taken into consideration when developing safety standards for furniture.

They have been drawn up by a working group of experts set up by CEN/TC 207 with the prime objective of harmonizing the approach to hazard, risk assessment and injury prevention. These guidelines give recommendations on preventative measures to avoid injuries that could be caused by furniture.

The standards developed by CEN/TC 207 cover a wide range of users, including vulnerable group such as children and the elderly. Furniture is a group that has large variations between different products, however, many safety hazards associated with this diverse group of products are very similar. These guidelines identify many of these safety hazards and give details that enable similar safety principles to be applied to the drafting of standards across the group of products.

The information given in these guidelines reflects the state of the art at publication. Standards and regulations will continuously be developed. Other sources may also provide useful information for the reader.

How to use this guideline

The safety recommendations and test methods given are intended to give guidance and to lead to consistency when writing safety standards for furniture. It is recommended to use these guidelines when drafting standards.

The safety recommendations detailed do not constitute an exhaustive set that can be applied to all furniture products. The application to particular products should be evaluated by experts.

In these guidelines rationales are given to explain the potential hazard. Wherever possible, recommendations, test equipment and test methods are given which can be used when drafting standards. The terminology in these guidelines is not the one required for standards: the word '*shall*' is meant to be used in standards, not '*should*' as given in these guidelines.

CEN/TC 207 is, wherever possible when writing new standards or revising existing standards, drafting their standards on a hazard based format.

This document should enable working groups to draft their standards in a hazard based format by proceeding in the following way:

- identification of the hazards and assessment of the risk;
- definition of the recommendations to address an identified hazard and risk;
- definition of relevant test methods to check that the recommendations are met;
- provision of an Annex which contains anthropometric data for the inclusion of the recommendations.

1 Scope

This document, contains the general safety philosophy, a guideline on the safety assessment that experts are recommended to use when drafting standards and guidance on specific general safety recommendations, and test methods, relating to hazards caused by holes and openings that are common to all types of furniture.

The Technical Report contains guidance that is intended to be used by designers and manufacturers to assess any inherent risk within their products.

The Technical Report is intended to address common risks posed by items of furniture to adults and children over 36 months old. For products designed for children under 36 months attention is drawn to CEN/TR 13387 series of documents.

Safety risks addressed by this document are hazards caused by holes and openings and specifically:

- entrapment of fingers;
- shearing or compression/crushing of fingers;
- sharp edges.

Safety risks not addressed by this document, because they are considered outside of the scope of this report and associated with specific product types, but can be caused by holes and openings include:

- entrapment of head and neck;
- entrapment of limbs;

These guidelines do not cover all types of hazards and risks, such as inappropriate use of products, or inadequate supervision of children.

NOTE Attention is drawn to the importance of ensuring that all other potential hazards relevant to the product e.g. stability, strength and the effects of electrical power etc., are fully addressed in the process of standards writing.

This document has one Annex:

Annex A (informative) – Anthropometric data.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1

harm

injury or damage to the health of people, or damage to property or the environment