## Corded window coverings - G/TBT/N/USA/955/Add.4 dated 30-Nov-2022

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| **Notifying Member** | USA |
| **Type of Notification** | Addendum to Regular Notification |
| **Economic relevance** | High |
| **Technical Relevance** | Technical New |
| **Last Date to offer comments** | Not Applicable |
| **Relevant Organization** | AEPC / SRTEPC / TEXPRPOCIL |
| **Folder Link** | [Link](https://seetharamanassociates-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/satish_sarvada_co_in/EhsmaM6YbO9MtGCIK0745bwBKfXe7lzicfRT4-oL8p4A1w?e=3UaO5v) |

**Proposal in brief**

1. The USA has notified members about the publishing of the final rule “Safety Standards for operating cords on Custom Window Coverings” which determined that custom window coverings with accessible operating cords longer than 8 inches pose an unreasonable risk of strangulation to children 8 years old and younger.
2. Each custom window covering shall comply with section 4.3.1 or 4.3.2.5.2, instead of section 4.3.2, of ANSI/WCMA A100.1—2018.
3. The rigid cord shroud shall meet the requirements in section 6.3, of ANSI/ WCMA A100.1—2018 and shall not have an accessible cord when tested for cord accessibility using the test methods defined in paragraphs (b)(1) and (2) of this section.
4. The following Test methods for rigid cord shrouds shall be conducted:
   1. Center load test – should support each end of the rigid cord shroud within 0.25 inches from the ends. For rigid cord shrouds that are ≤19 inches, the deflection shall not exceed 2 inches.
   2. Axial torque test – mount one end of the rigid cord shroud and restrict the rotation along the axial direction. 4.4 in-lb. (0.5 Nm) torque along the other end of the rigid cord shroud for 5 seconds to check if the cord shroud accessibility test probe can touch any cord.
5. Manufacturers and importers of custom window coverings shall not manufacture or import custom window coverings that do not comply with the requirements of this part in any 180 days between November 28, 2022, and May 30, 2023, at a rate that is greater than 120 percent of the rate at which they manufactured or imported custom window coverings during the base period for the manufacturer. The base period for custom window coverings is any period of 180 consecutive dates, chosen by the manufacturer or importer, in the 5 years immediately preceding November 28, 2022.
6. The effective date of the rule shall be 30 May 2023, and the rule shall be applied to all custom window coverings manufactured after that date.

**Analysis**

* The said regulation is issued considering the safety of children from window covering cords. Before the final rule, sufficient notice has been provided to the stakeholders for their comments. The same does not seem to have any adverse effect on the trade.

**Action Points**

* **For Sarvada:** Sarvada is disseminating the information to the stakeholders in its list. The email/s are copied to EIC and DOC.

## Window Covering Cords- G/TBT/N/USA/1820/Add.1 Dated 30-Nov-2022

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| **Notifying Member** | USA |
| **Type of Notification** | Addendum to Regular notification |
| **Economic relevance** | High |
| **Technical Relevance** | Technical-New |
| **Last Date to offer comments** | Not Applicable |
| **Date of Entry into Force** | 28 December 2022 |
| **Relevant Organization** | AEPC / SRTEPC / TEXPROCIL |
| **Folder Link** | [Link](https://seetharamanassociates-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/satish_sarvada_co_in/ElISp4xA5mxAqZtfI39KZbcBat2-2wCfmQDPlV2p7mhvPQ?e=bhtYHC) |

**Proposal in brief**

1. USA Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has issued an addendum to publish the final rule on “Substantial Product Hazard List: Window Covering Cords.”
2. The Commission deems three readily observable characteristics of stock window coverings a Substantial Product Hazard (SPH):
   1. presence of hazardous operating cords.
   2. presence of hazardous inner cords.
   3. absence of a required manufacturer label.
   4. presence of hazardous inner cords; and
   5. absence of a required manufacturer label.
3. Products which are deemed to be substantial Product Hazards are as follows:

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| **Stock Window covering section of the standard** | **Readily observable characteristics** | **Criterion** |
| **A. Operating Cord** | | |
| 4.3.1.1 Cordless Operating System: ‘‘The product shall have no operating cords.’’ | Presence of the operating cord | (a) Not present or |
| 4.3.1.2 Short Static or Access Cords: ‘‘The product shall have a Short Cord’’. | If present, measure the length in any position of the window covering | (b) 8 inches or shorter or |
| 4.3.1.3 Inaccessible Operating Cords: ‘‘The operating cords shall be inaccessible as determined per the test requirements in Appendix C: Test Procedure for Accessible Cords’’. | If present and longer than 8 inches, observe whether accessible. | (c) Inaccessible using cord accessibility probe. |
| **B. Inner Cord** | | |
| 4.5 Inner Cords: ‘‘All products with inner cords must meet the requirements in Appendix C and Appendix D.’’ Appendix C. Test Procedure for Accessible Cords. | If present, determine whether accessible. | (a) Inaccessible using cord accessibility probe or |
| Appendix D. Hazardous Loop Test Procedure …………… | If present, determine whether a child’s head can penetrate the opening. | (b) Pull inner cord and measure to determine whether the opening is less than 17 inches. For 15(j) purposes, this is comparable to inserting a head probe with a force of 10 pounds. |
| **C. Manufacturer Label** | | |
| 5.3 Manufacturer Label: There shall be a permanent label(s) or marking on all finished window covering products | Presence of a permanent label or marking within or on the headrail or on the roller tube. | Observe whether the label is present and contains the following: (a) The name, city, and state of the manufacturer/importer/ fabricator. (b) Month and year of manufacture. (c) Designation of window covering as ‘‘Custom’’ or ‘‘Stock.’’ |

1. This final rule shall came into effect on 28 December 2022.

**Analysis**

* The said rule does not seem to have adverse impact on the stakeholders. However, the stakeholders may be kept updated with the developments.

**Action Points**

* **For Sarvada:** Sarvada is disseminating the information to the stakeholders in its list. The email/s are copied to EIC and DOC.