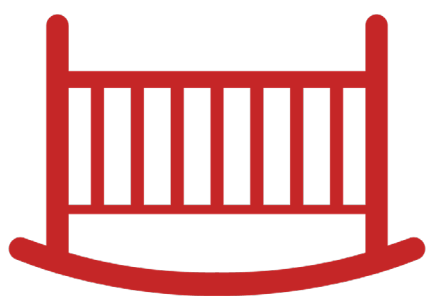


EN 1130 cribs: the revision of this standard is coming

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It was back in the 1996 when the two standards for cribs for domestic use were published, EN 1130 part 1 and part 2.

And now, after 23 years and many wishes on necessary changes and improvements, the new standard is finally ready for its publication. This revision started in 2012 with the first documents and drafts and then with a creation of a specific working group soon after.

In these 23 years a lot of changes occurred and also the products have changed a lot.

This revision takes care of such changes; in fact, in addition to the usual cribs, the document also includes the suspended cribs and bedside sleepers, for domestic and non-domestic use with the exclusion of hospitals.

Another significant point regards that this standard has been prepared under request of the European Commission. Therefore, the compliance of its requirements gives presumption of conformity to the General Product Safety Directive. The most important changes compared to the previous version can be summarized as follows:

- The connection of the two parts of the previous standard in only one document with the definition of test methods and relative safety requirements;
- The modification of the structure of the standard with a hazard-based approach;
- Introduction of requirements and test methods for suspended cribs and bedside sleepers;
- Introduction of requirements concerning chemical and thermal risks.

The structure of the standard based on the hazards approach has been already introduced in the recent standard regarding high chairs, EN 14988, issued in July 2017. Also in this case the requirements have been defined starting from an evaluation of the risks and being consequently formed by the following parts:

- Clause 5. Test equipment;
- Clause 6. Chemical hazards;
- Clause 7. Flammability hazards;
- Clause 8. Mechanical hazards:
 - * Rischi di intrappolamento nelle aperture;
 - * Entrapment hazards from gaps and openings;
 - * Hazards from moving parts;
 - * Hazards due to the movement of the product;
 - * Falling hazards;
 - * Entanglement hazards;
 - * Choking and ingestion hazards;
 - * Suffocation hazards;
 - * Hazards from sharp points and edges;

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- * Hazards due to bedside sleeping;
 - * Structural integrity.
- Clause 9. Materassi;
 - Clause 10. Informazioni del prodotto.

Considering such new approach, with this article I would like to describe the part of the standard that regards the bedside sleepers. As already mentioned, this product which is increasingly requested in the European market, does not have any reference standard up to now.

On the other side, in the USA there is a standard, the ASTM F1821-2018, which defines test methods, performance requirements, and marking rules to promote the safe use of bedside sleepers: it is intended to minimize the risk of injury to an infant from the normal and reasonably predictable use of this product.

During the revision of this new version of the standard, a fatal accident occurred to a seven-week-old child in West Sussex was communicated to the CEN working group; it happened while she was sleeping in a bedside sleeper.

From the following analysis, the problem was associated to the height of the lowered drop side, that was of 101 mm.

These very few but important information helped the working group on which could be the correct safety requirements that must be introduced in the new standard. They had also decided which is the adequate height of the drop side when the crib is attached to the adult bed.

Moreover, other factors considered were the possibility to lower or remove the side and, in this case, which was the correct height of the crib mattress respect to the adult mattress.

The final result of all these analyses, which will be published soon, is that the crib must have a minimum height of 200 mm from the mattress surface and the top of the side. Moreover, when the side is lowered to attach the crib to the adult's bed, this height must be of a minimum of 120 mm. The standard also describes the test method for the determination of this height.

In this standard are also defined the tests methods on bedside sleepers attachment system to verify the strength and to avoid the creation of dangerous openings between the crib and the adult's bed.

CATAS is already equipped for the execution of the tests according to this new standard, so as to be ready at the time of its publication which will take place within a few months.

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