

Questions Professionals Should Ask about the Window Covering Standard

January 3, 2011

Contact: Deb Barrett

Deb@debbarett.com

1. Do you have a copy of the ANSI/WCMA A100.1-2010 (PS2) standard? You can obtain a copy of the standard [HERE](#). You can read the standard [HERE](#).
2. Are you aware that the new safety standards apply to all corded window covering products?
3. As a fabricator or manufacturer- are you testing or have you tested your window coverings?
4. If you are self testing, do you have the proper equipment and are you performing the tests according to standard requirements?
5. Have you verified your testing with an independent lab?
6. Can you supply me with written documentation of the test results?
7. Which prescribed method in section 4.3(separate operating cords, cord release device, retraction device, shear device, shroud, tension or cord connector) are you using for draw cords? Is the device in compliance?
8. Do your loop cord tension devices prevent window coverings from operating until properly installed?
9. Are they shipped attached to the product?
10. Are your products properly labeled and tagged?
11. Is your contact and origin information clearly labeled on the product?

Once you ask these questions, have a conversation with your legal counsel to discuss how the answers affect your business and how you sell corded window coverings?

1. Do you have or need a hold harmless clause in your sales contract?
2. Are you or do you need to provide your customers with documentation of compliance? If so, what?
3. Do you have or should you have a subcontractor's agreement with suppliers and installers detailing their responsibilities when it comes to corded products?
4. Do you have to contact previous clients about retrofitting and compliance?
5. How far does your liability extend or transfer?

About Deb Barrett

Deb Barrett had been actively involved in window coverings industry for over 25 years. As an award winning designer and founder of Window Dressings, Deb Barrett has built a reputation for cutting edge couture treatments and soft furnishings. In addition to Window Dressings, she is an accomplished speaker, editor and author. Nationally known, Deb regularly speaks at industry and association events on a variety of design, business and trend topics. Barrett also works with manufacturers and stakeholders in the window covering industry as a consultant and strategist. For more details, contact Deb at deb@debbarett.com or Deb@windowfashionexpert.com.