

BACK-GROUND

From 1987, the Nightwear (Safety) Regulations 1985 have applied to all adult and children's nightwear and babies' garments sold in the UK. All these garments, as with most other products, are also subject to the General Product Safety Regulations.

While injuries from accidental ignition of nightwear by flame sources such as gas, electric or open fires and candles had been few in the UK a number of injuries in Europe prompted the European Commission to mandate CEN, the European standards organisation, to develop Europe-wide standards for flammability of nightwear. These were to be used in the context of the overarching safety requirements of the General Product Safety Directive (GPSR in the UK). After due process a specification covering only children's nightwear was published as EN 14878:2007 Burning Behaviour of Children's Nightwear - Specification, in 30 European countries and implemented in the UK as BS EN 14878:2007.

However some requirements of BS EN 14878 are less onerous than those of the pre-existing UK Nightwear (Safety) Regulations and consequently the UK entered an "A Deviation", to indicate that the UK's more onerous requirements remain and must be followed in the UK. At the same time other clauses in BS EN 14878 are more onerous or the requirements are different in detail.

ISSUES

As children's nightwear in the UK must comply with both the nightwear regulations and the GPSR it must take account of BS EN 14878.

How this can be achieved is outlined here in the tables.

BOLTON CONSULTANCY LTD

Is an independent consultancy offering confidential advice on textiles, textile products, clothing and consumer products. We have in-depth understanding of the processes systems and requirements needed to assure product integrity and compliance with National & International Standards and legislation.

AFFILIATIONS

Bolton Consultancy is a member of:

- British Standards Institution
- National Children's Wear Association

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions on the content of this information sheet or wish to discuss any other technical matters please contact Bolton Consultancy Ltd.

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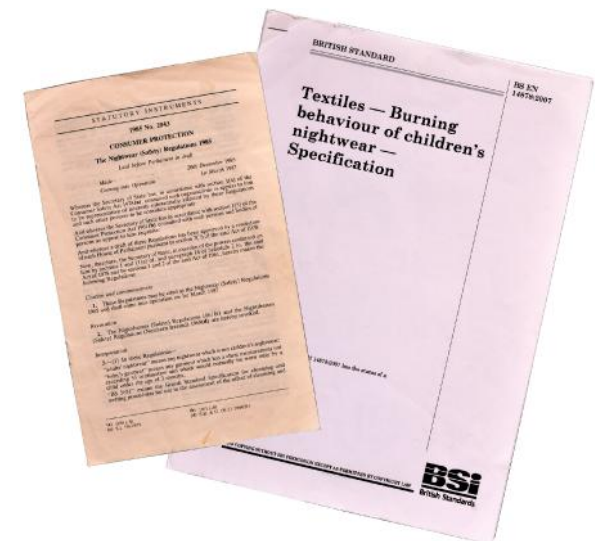
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FLAMMABILITY OF NIGHTWEAR - UK

NIGHTWEAR (SAFETY) REGULATIONS 1985. AND BS EN 14878: 2007.



THE 1985 REGULATIONS

Nightwear (Safety) Regulations 1985: is statutory. All products falling within the scope of the regulations must comply.

GPSR

GPSR 2004: requires products to be safe or pose the minimum of risk

- under normal and foreseeable use
- for the lifetime of the product.

It applies over and above national regulations and to aspects of safety not otherwise covered by them.

All product should be assessed for risk.

The simplest route for producers and distributors to demonstrate that their product is safe is through compliance with both national legislation and other appropriate European standards.

WHICH ONE TO APPLY

In principle adopt the more onerous of the two requirements.

Detailed advice is given by the UK Government department responsible for consumer affairs in their Children's Nightwear Advisory Note

http://www.boltonconsultancy.co.uk/index_files/file48151.pdf

This should be used in conjunction with the UK Nightwear (Safety) Regulations, guidance note Nightwear and Fire

http://www.boltonconsultancy.co.uk/index_files/file25421.pdf

and BS EN 14878.

The Advisory Note lists 14 key differences and makes recommendations on which to adopt.

SUMMARY

In order to comply with UK Nightwear (Safety) Regulations 1985 and meet BS EN 14878 it is recommended that the performance and labeling criteria in the following tables be adopted.

Pyjamas

Intended Wearer	UK Performance Requirements	Labeling Text
Birth to (6 months) height 68cm	None	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE
Over 68cm (6 months) and up to height: Girls 176cm (14 years) Boys 182cm (14 years)	Meet BS EN 14878 EITHER <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class A • When tested to BS EN 1103 no surface flash flame 520mm trip thread severed in not less than 15s • No design limitations OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class B • When tested to BS EN 1103 no surface flash flame 520mm trip thread severed in not less than 10s • With design limitations see BS EN 14878 clause 10 	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE

Night Dresses, Dressing Gowns, Bath Robes (NOT Cotton Terry Towelling) and Similar Garments

Intended Wearer	UK Performance Requirements	Labeling Text
Birth to 3 months	None	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE
Over 3 months and up to height 68cm (6 months)	Meet UK regulations, BS 5722: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When tested to BS 5438 300mm trip thread severed in not less than 25s • 600mm trip thread severed in not less than 50s 	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE LOW FLAMMABILITY TO BS 5722
Over 68cm (6 months) and up to height Girls 176cm (14 years) Boys 182cm (14 years)	Meet UK regulations, BS 5722: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When tested to BS 5438 300mm trip thread severed in not less than 25s • 600mm trip thread severed in not less than 50s 	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE LOW FLAMMABILITY TO BS 5722

Bath Robes Made of Cotton Terry Towelling Only

Intended Wearer	UK Performance Requirements	Labeling Text
Birth to 3 months	None	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE
Over 3 months and up to 6 months	None	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE
Over 68cm (6 months) and up to height: Girls 176cm (14 years) Boys 182cm (14 years)	Meet BS EN 14878 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class A • When tested to BS EN 1103 no surface flash flame 520mm trip thread severed in not less than 15s 	KEEP AWAY FROM FIRE

Labeling

Follow the UK Nightwear (Safety) Regulations for
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position of label • Font, size and colour • Label durability • Permanency of labelling of garment

Applied Flame Retardants

Follow BS EN 14878 for	Labeling Text
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toxicology • Durability BS 5651:1978 • Labeling 	DO NOT WASH AT MORE THAN 50°C. CHECK SUITABILITY OF WASHING AGENT

OTHER GARMENTS

Requirements for baby's daywear and adult nightwear are unaffected by BS EN 14878 and garments should continue to comply with the Nightwear (Safety) Regulations 1985.

The information contained in this note was originally prepared as part of a contract for BERR and is believed to be accurate at the time of printing but is for information only and should not be relied upon. Reference should be made to the published standard which can be obtained from your national standards body.