

3rd February 2014



Our Statement on Child Safety

Yewdale

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What is the new child safety Regulation?

The EN13120 is a regulation that sets out the standard for the performance of any internal blind/shading device. Its two test method standards - EN16433 and EN16434 have been revised to provide greater child safety for children between the ages of 0 - 42 months. These test methods set out a minimum requirement for protection from strangulation hazards.

What shading systems does this regulation effect?

It applies to all products using an accumulation cord or chain, for instance chain controlled rollers/verticals, window curtain tracks and cassettes.

Our Responsibility

Yewdale feels that a responsible attitude is what is expected and looked for from every blind system provider. Not only do Yewdale feel that compliance is required in meeting the legal obligation set out in EN13120, but we have a clear responsibility to exceed what is expected and required of us so that you are protected.

Our Experience in this field

Yewdale feels with the knowledge it has gained over the past 10 years in establishing a brand (YewdaleKestrel) that is designed, built and installed with nothing other in mind than the prevention of 'Self Harm', it is best placed to fully endorse the new EN13120 legislation for Child Safety, and present it to our customers in simple, basic and understandable steps.

Safety not Business!

Yewdale feels strongly that the revised EN13120 has been revised for one reason – child safety. *Many in the industry do feel that persons/companies have seen this merely as an opportunity to profiteer from this new legislation. It is important the trade is transparent and open, and is not seen to be profiteering from it.*

Single Source Purchasing

Yewdale is clear that the EN13120 does not require within its standards that any component, system or assembly of components is purchased from a single source.

Does this apply to vertical blinds and curtain tracks as well?

Yes, the revised regulation applies to all corded window shading systems being installed in residential areas, all areas open to the public and anywhere where children up to the age of 42 months could have access.

When will the standards be published?

The British Standards Institute (BSI) initially indicated the revised standards would be published at the end of February, however they are now stating that "...the current intended date of publication is by 31 March 2014."

Will Yewdale products be Compliant?

Yes, Yewdale has embarked on a journey to ensure every YewdaleDefiant® and YewdaleVitesse® product to be fully compliant, whether it is an individual component or a finished product, where applicable. Test certificates are available.

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Will I need to give more detail on my orders?

Yes, Yewdale will require fixing heights to be specified on all blind and window curtain track orders incorporating chains/cords from 1st March 2014.

How does it affect me?

I am a manufacturer. What action should I take?

- **Certification:** Obtain test certificates from your provider of goods that demonstrate all safety devices are compliant to EN 13120 and its two test methods
- **Manufacturing:** Ideally you should obtain the fitting height of the blind to enable the appropriate parameters to be worked to so that the chain/cord lengths are compliant to EN13120 and its two test methods:

If a chain break connector is being used:

If the install height is known, the distance from the floor to the bottom of the cord/chain shall be at least 600mm. If the install height is not known, the cord length shall be less than, or equal to, 2/3rd of the drop of the blind/track.

If a chain tidy is being used:

If the install height is known, the distance from the floor to the bottom of the cord shall be at least 1500mm. If the install height is not known and the drop of the blind is less than or equal to 2500mm, the cord length shall be less than or equal to 1000mm. If the install height is not known and the drop of the blind is greater than 2500mm, the cord length shall be less than or equal to the blind drop less 1500mm.

- **Instructions:** Include instructions with the blinds/tracks that inform the installer/end-user of the risks of child strangulation.
- **Warning tags/labels:** Include a warning tag on the blind/track cord and a warning tag on the safety device, along with a safety label on the packaging.
- **Responsibility:** You are responsible that all blinds/tracks are left in accordance with EN13120 and its two test methods.

I purchase made to measure blinds and tracks. What action should I take?

- **Certification:** Obtain test certificates from your provider of goods that demonstrate all safety devices are compliant to EN 13120 and its two test methods.
- **Measuring:** Obtain fixing heights of all blind/track installations, to give to your manufacturer.
- **Installing:** Use all safety devices and tags provided.
- **Responsibility:** You are responsible that all blinds/tracks are left in accordance with EN13120 and its two test methods.

Assistance

If you have any further questions, need additional help or guidance then please send us an email to childsafety@yewdale.co.uk and a customer service advisor will contact you to guide you through the whole process.

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