



PROPOSAL FOR A NEW FIELD OF TECHNICAL ACTIVITY

PROPOSER:

DATE OF CIRCULATION:

SAC

Click or tap to enter a date.

CLOSING DATE FOR VOTING:

Click or tap to enter a date.

A proposal for a new field of technical activity shall be submitted to the Office of the CEO (to tmb@iso.org), which will process the proposal in accordance with [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, Clause 1.5](#).

Furthermore, a proposal will be considered as complete if every information field is complete and follows the guidelines for proposing and justifying a new field of activity given in the [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, Annex C](#).

TITLE

(Please see the [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, Annex C, Clause C.4.2](#))

Pet products

SCOPE

(Please see the [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, Annex C, Clause C.4.3](#))

Standardization of safety requirements and test methods for pet products which are designed or obviously intended to facilitate seating, bathing, feeding, mouthing, sleeping, playing, transportation, activity and protection for pets.

Excluded:

Pet food covered by ISO/TC 34/SC 10.

Pet toys covered by ISO/TC 181.

Drugs and health related products.

All electrical aspects which are dealt with by IEC.

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION (Please use the field immediately below or attach an annex.)

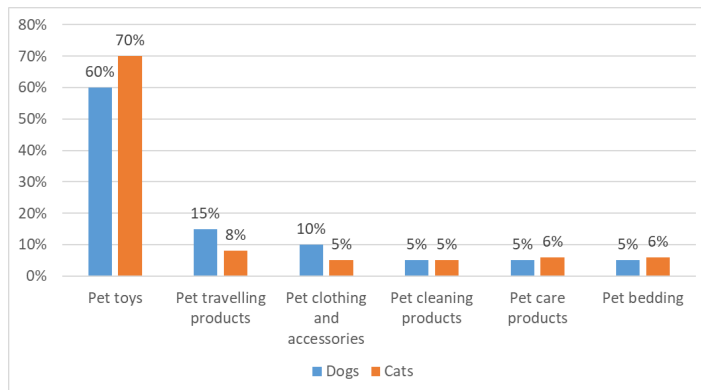
(Please see the [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, Annex C, Clause C.4.13](#))

The purpose of this proposal is to establish a technical committee to develop international standards for pet products, excluding pet food, drugs and health related products.

A pet is a domestic or tamed animal kept for companionship or pleasure, rather than for utility. Along with the current situation of aging population and low birth rate in various countries, the reduction of family members has greatly increased the demand for pets. Many people treat their pets as a member of the family, caring for their meals, living and health and attaching strong emotions to them, resulting in the growing public attention to the pet market. The United States is currently the largest pet market, followed by Europe, China, Japan, and Southeast Asia, among others. From 2019 to 2023, the penetration rate of family households owning pets in various countries is increasing every year, with

70% in the U.S., 46% in Europe, and 22% in China. The global pet care market size is expected to grow from USD 295 billion in 2022 to USD 400.4 billion in 2028, at a CAGR of 5.22% during the forecast period. North America holds the largest share of the global pet care market, accounting for more than 49% in 2022. Of these, the U.S. holds a significant position in the North America pet care market.

Mainstream pet products in the market include: pet toys, pet cleaning products, pet care products, pet clothing, pet travelling products and so on. With the growth of the pet products market, the quality and safety issues of related pet products are becoming more and more prominent, and injuries such as allergy, fracture, suffocation, poisoning, and death of pets have occurred from time to time during the use. For example, hanging pet beds can lead to fall hazards due to quality problems of the bed, which may result in fracture, internal bleeding or even death of pets. Litter trays with automatic cleaning function may lead to shock, crushing and pinching, fracture and even death of pets in case the product is operating before the pet leaves the tray due to malfunction. Based on the injury data of cats and dogs collected from some pet hospitals, the percentage of pet injuries caused by different categories of pet products is shown in the figure below:



In the markets, there have also been cases of pet product recalls due to safety issues. For example, in USA, cleaning products for pets were recalled because of bacterial issues, fish tank filters and pet heating pads were recalled because of electrical problems; in Australia, pet dryers were recalled for electrical problems and pet toys were recalled due to button battery problems; In China, pet dryers and heating pads were recalled because of electrical problems.

Currently, many countries and regions did not have specific standards for pet products. Therefore, pet products are regulated as general consumer items, leaving some pet products with potential safety hazards. Of the two large pet product markets in the United States and China, China has issued some national standards for pet product, while the United States has established a sub-technical committee to draft standards for pet products, a few standards for pet products are in the process of development.

As pet products do not have specific international standards, their safety can only be assessed or verified with the material or characteristics of similar products. For example, the raw materials for pet carriers and leashes may be referred to certain requirements in the standards of ISO/TC 38 "Textiles". The requirements for pet household articles are sometimes referred to similar safety requirements for child care articles developed by ISO/TC 310 "Child care articles". Some safety requirements for pet toys and furniture can be referred to similar ISO standards from ISO/TC 136 "Furniture" and ISO/TC 181 "Safety of toys". However, these committees focus mainly on products for children and adult consumers, while the behaviours and living scenarios of pets are different from those of humans. Also, pets are unable to communicate effectively with humans and have limited ability to learn. Therefore, the standards for pet products, while they may be partially referred to these standards, need to be developed based on the characteristics and behaviours of pets. On the other hand, we will try to establish internal liaison with other relevant committees such as ISO/TC 181 to keep them informed on the proposed work and ensure safety of children when pet products are misused.

The development of a series of international standards for pet products can help define safety requirements and test method for pet products and materials to improve the safety, quality and usability of pet products effectively and efficiently. This is of great significance to the living environment and safety of pets, as well as to the physical and mental health of pet owners.

In summary, it is imperative to develop international standards or technical specifications for pet products. It can not only improve the safety level of pet products and ensure the safety of pets and pet owners, but also have a long-term favourable impact on the overall market and reduce costs arising from different national and regional regulations.

PROPOSED INITIAL PROGRAMME OF WORK (Please use the field immediately below or attach an annex)

Please see the [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, Annex C.4.4 and C-4.5](#))

For each item, the initial work programme shall define the deliverable type and target dates. The initial work programme shall also assign priorities to the different items.

The Technical Committee will prioritise the development of international standards such as general safety requirements and terminology for pet products. The standard development programme for the first five years will be:

Pet products - General safety requirements and test methods, December 2028

Pet products - Terminologies, December 2028

Pet chew toys - Safety requirements and test methods, December 2029

Pet exercise toys - Safety requirements and test methods, December 2029

Pet strollers - Safety requirements and test methods, December 2030

Car pet cage - Safety requirements and test methods, December 2030

Pet collars and leashes - Safety requirements and test methods, December 2030

Upon completion of the above programme, the Technical Committee will continue to develop safety requirements and test methods for the following products:

Cat litter, cat litter trays, pet dryers, pet nail clippers, pet groomers, pet shelters and more.

RELATION OF THE PROPOSAL TO EXISTING INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND ON-GOING STANDARDIZATION WORK

- ☐ The proposer has checked whether the proposed scope of the new committee overlaps with the scope of any existing ISO or IEC committee or JTC1 sub-committee
- ☒ If an overlap or the potential for overlap is identified, the affected committee has been informed and an agreement has been reached between proposer and committee on
 - i. modification/restriction of the scope of the proposal to avoid overlapping,
 - ii. potential modification/restriction of the scope of the existing committee to avoid overlapping.
- ☐ If agreement with the existing committee has not been reached, please explain why the proposal should be approved.

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- ☐ Have proposals on this subject been submitted into an existing committee and rejected? If so, what were the reasons for rejection?

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LISTING OF RELEVANT DOCUMENTS (SUCH AS STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS) AT INTERNATIONAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL

(Please see the [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, Annex C, Clause C.4.6](#))

US ASTM F15.05 is drafting two standards for pet products. China has released national standards on safety requirements for pet products. Other countries and regions such as the EU, Australia, Japan etc., do not have specific standards or regulations for pet products. Pet products are normally regulated under general consumer product regulations and standards. Below are relevant documents:

Specific standards for pet products:

ASTM WK85577 a consumer safety specification for dog toys

ASTM WK86591 a test method for pet safety harness restraint systems for vehicle occupant safety

GB/T 43839 – 2024 Safety requirements for pet products

Other standards that can be referred to when developing standards for pet products are:

ISO 8124 safety of toys (reference for pet toys)

ISO 31110 wheeled child conveyances (reference for pet strollers)

EN 1930 Child use and care articles - Safety barriers - Safety requirements and test methods
(reference for safety barriers for pets)

LISTING OF RELEVANT COUNTRIES WHERE THE SUBJECT OF THE PROPOSAL IS IMPORTANT TO THEIR NATIONAL COMMERCIAL INTERESTS

(Please see the [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, Annex C, Clause C.4.8](#))

USA, China, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Sweden, Australia, Brazil, Japan, Korea, Philippine, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, South Africa, Nigeria, Egypt, Kenya, New Zealand and etc.

LISTING OF RELEVANT EXTERNAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OR INTERNAL PARTIES (OTHER THAN ISO AND/OR IEC COMMITTEES) TO BE ENGAGED AS LIASONS IN THIS WORK

(Please see the [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, Clause C.4.9](#))

World Animal Protection

International Organization for Animal Protection

World Organization for Animal Health

FOUR PAWS International

IDENTIFICATION AND DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT AFFECTED STAKEHOLDER CATEGORIES

(Please see [ISO Connect](#))

	Benefits/Impacts/Examples
Industry and commerce – large industry	ISO standards can guide product design and development globally, stabilize the quality of mass-produced products, help companies create suitable storage and transport environments, reduce complaints and recalls due to inherent product defects, and lower the compliance risks faced by companies when selling products.
Industry and commerce – SMEs	ISO standards increase the cost of producing and selling products to some extent, but they can help find qualified companies up and down the supply chain, reduce commodity issues caused by substandard parts, reduce complaints and recalls due to products with inherent defects, and lower the risk of compliance that companies face when selling products.
Government	ISO standards can help governments clarify product specifications, prevent substandard products from entering the market, reduce the incidence of injuries caused by defective products, and promote market surveillance and fairness.
Consumers	ISO standards ensure safer pet products, reduce injuries for pets and pet owners caused by pet products during use, and protect the lives and health of pets.

Labour	ISO standards can standardize product manufacturing requirements to help labours do their jobs more efficiently and reduce the potential for product injuries at work.
Academic and research bodies	ISO standards can be important references for academic and research bodies, encouraging these organizations to do more research on the harm done to pets by the construction, materials and chemical composition associated from pet products.
Standards application businesses	ISO standards provide the basis for testing and certification organizations to provide relevant testing services, helping them to design comprehensive testing programmes and processes for pet products and to improve their economic efficiency.
Non-governmental organizations	ISO standards can help animal protection organizations to safeguard household pets when using certified pet supplies, and can guarantee that these organizations receive safe products when purchasing pet products.
Other (please specify)	/

EXPRESSION OF LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT FROM THE PROPOSER

(Please see the [ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1, Annex C, Clause C.4.12](#))

The Standardization Administration of the People's Republic of China is willing to undertake the secretariat work of the Technical Committee and is also willing to be the Chair of the Committee.

☒ The proposer confirms that this proposal has been drafted in compliance with iso/iec directives, part 1, annex c

SIGNATURE OF THE PROPOSER

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COMMENTS OF THE ISO CENTRAL OFFICE (IF ANY)

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