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British Standard

Strength and stability of furniture

Part 3. Methods for determination of
strength of settees

Résistance et stabilité de l'ameublement

Partie 3. Méthodes de détermination de la résistance des canapés

Festigkeit und Standfestigkeit von Möbeln

Teil 3. Verfahren zur Bestimmung der Festigkeit von Couchen und Sofas

British Standards Institution

Foreword

This Part of BS 4875 has been prepared under the direction of the Furniture and Household Equipment Standards Committee, and forms a revision of part of BS 4875 : Part 1: 1972. Together with Parts 1, 2 and 4 it supersedes BS 4875 : Part 1 : 1972 which is withdrawn.

The major changes introduced by this revision are that the realism of the tests has been improved by specifying the use of more realistic apparatus, and a template is specified to determine the loading points. The opportunity has been taken to align the standard with an international standard in course of preparation in ISO/TC 136/SC 1 'Furniture — Test methods'.

The tests described in this Part of BS 4875 reproduce normal use and common types of mis-use to which seating may be subjected. As a result the methods are applicable to nearly all seating. Four test levels are given for the tests to cover the variations in severity of end-use that arises from the use of delicate styles, short life furniture, robust serviceable styles, etc. Whilst the tests reproduce normal use and common types of mis-use they do not reproduce any abuse to which the article may be subjected.

Appendix A gives an explanation of the furniture test levels used in this standard.

The tests are designed to be applied to an article that is fully assembled and ready for use and are only intended to determine strength of the structure; they do not assess durability of filling materials, upholstery fabrics or foam cushions. The tests also do not reproduce the effects caused by degradation of structural materials by sunlight or chemical attack.

Other Parts of BS 4875 are as follows:

- Part 1 Methods for determination of strength of chairs and stools
- Part 2 Methods for determination of stability of chairs and stools
- Part 4 Methods for determination of stability of settees
- Part 5 Methods for determination of strength of tables and trolleys
- Part 6 Methods for determination of stability of tables and trolleys
- Part 7 Methods for determination of strength of storage furniture
- Part 8 Methods for determination of stability of storage furniture

Attention is drawn to BS 6250 which specifies performance requirements for domestic and contract furniture using this standard as the method of test, and to BS 5459 and BS 5873 which specify performance requirements for office and educational furniture using methods that are very similar to those in this standard.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.