

## **COLOR FASTNESS**

### **COLOUR FASTNESS TO WASHING**

#### **3.30.1 Current criterion**

The current criterion is formulated as follows:

“The color fastness to washing shall be at least level 3-4 (color change and staining). This criterion does not apply to products clearly labeled “dry clean only” or equivalent (insofar as it is normal practice for such products to be so labeled), to white products or products that are neither dyed nor printed, or to furniture fabrics.

*Test method: ISO 105 C06 (single wash, at temperature as marked on the product, with perborate powder). Test report required on application.”*

#### **3.30.2 Changes to the criterion**

Level 3-4 is acceptable for color change, but should be 4 for staining. In case of multicolored fabrics or fabrics to be sewn together with white even 4-5 might not be enough to avoid visible staining. At the ahWG meeting December 2001 it was argued, however, that level 4 is too strict for many products, for instance when micro-fibers are involved. At the end it was agreed to keep the fastness levels at the same level as in the current criterion.

The criterion should also apply to washable/removable furniture fabrics.

The criterion is reformulated as follows:

“The color fastness to washing shall be at least level 3-4 for color change and at least level 3-4 for staining. This criterion does not apply to products clearly labeled “dry clean only” or equivalent (insofar as it is normal practice for such products to be so labeled), to white products or products that are neither dyed nor printed, or to non-washable furniture fabrics.

***Assessment and verification: The applicant shall provide test reports using the following test method: ISO 105 C06 (single wash, at temperature as marked on the product, with perborate powder).***

### **COLOUR FASTNESS TO PERSPIRATION (ACID, ALKALINE)**

#### **3.31.1 Current criterion**

The current criterion is formulated as follows: The color fastness to perspiration (acid and alkaline) shall be at least level 3-4 (color change and staining). This criterion does not apply to white products, to products that are neither dyed nor printed, to furniture fabrics, curtains or similar textiles intended for interior decoration. A level of 3 is nevertheless allowed when fabrics are both light colored (standard depth < 1/12) and made of silk or of blends with more than 20% silk.

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*Test method: ISO 105 E04 (acid and alkaline, comparison with multi-fiber fabric). Test report required on application.*

### 3.31.2 Changes to the criterion

Level 4 should be used here to be sure to avoid consumer complaints. A number of comments during the revision work recommended, however, keeping the existing level. The Italian Competent Body informed that the exception for silk and silk blends is wrong, and suggested the reformulated wording as follows:  
"The color fastness to perspiration (acid and alkaline) shall be at least level 3-4 (color change and staining).

A level of 3 is nevertheless allowed when fabrics are both dark colored (standard depth > 1/1) and made of regenerated wool or more than 20% silk. This criterion does not apply to white products, to products that are neither dyed nor printed, to furniture fabrics, curtains or similar textiles intended for interior decoration.

***Assessment and verification: The applicant shall provide test reports using the following test method: ISO 105 E04 (acid and alkaline, comparison with multi-fiber fabric).***

## COLOUR FASTNESS TO WET RUBBING

### 3.32.1 Current criterion

The current criterion is formulated as follows:

"The color fastness to wet rubbing shall be at least level 2-3. A level of 2 is nevertheless allowed for indigo dyed denim. This criterion does not apply to white products, products that are neither dyed nor printed, or to curtains or similar textiles intended for interior decoration.

*Test method: ISO 105 X12. Test report required on application."*

### 3.32.2 Changes to the criterion

This level should be at least 3 (2-3 for denim), and it should also apply to interior decorations as there are examples, where products with such low levels have stained themselves during washing. A number of comments during the revision work recommended, however, keeping the existing level. The exceptions regarding curtains and textiles intended for interior decorations are deleted, resulting in the following formulation: "The color fastness to wet rubbing shall be at least level 2-3. A level of 2 is nevertheless allowed for indigo dyed denim. This criterion does not apply to white products or products that are neither dyed nor printed."

***Assessment and verification: The applicant shall provide test reports using the following test method: ISO 105 X12***

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### COLOUR FASTNESS TO DRY RUBBING

#### 3.33.1 Current criterion

The current criterion is formulated as follows:

“The color fastness to dry rubbing shall be at least level 4. A level of 3-4 is nevertheless allowed for indigo dyed denim. This criterion does not apply to white products or products that are neither dyed nor printed, or to curtains or similar textiles intended for interior decoration. *Test method: ISO 105 X12. Test report required on application.*”

#### 3.33.2 Changes to the criterion

The criterion has not been questioned or subject to other suggestions. It therefore remains unchanged, except for assessment and verification, with the following wording: The color fastness to dry rubbing shall be at least level 4. A level of 3-4 is nevertheless allowed for indigo dyed denim. This criterion does not apply to white products or products that are neither dyed nor printed, or to curtains or similar textiles intended for interior decoration.

*Assessment and verification: The applicant shall provide test reports using the following test method: ISO 105 X12.*

### COLOUR FASTNESS TO LIGHT

#### 3.34.1 Current criterion

For fabrics intended for furniture, curtains or drapes, the color fastness to light shall be at least level 5. A level of 4 is nevertheless allowed when fabrics are both light colored (standard depth < 1/12) and made of silk, wool or other keratin fibers, linen or other bast fibers, or of blends with more than 20% wool or other keratin fibers, or of blends with more than 20% silk, or of blends with more than 20% linen or other bast fibers. Note: this requirement does not apply to mattress ticking.

*Test method: ISO 105 B02. Test report required on application.*

#### 3.34.2 Changes to the criterion

A level of 6 should apply to curtains and level 5 for other products. If exterior textiles will be included in the criteria document color fastness to weathering (outdoor light fastness) should be used in stead of color fastness to light. For weathering a level of 5 should apply to awnings and the like and 4 or 4-5 to outdoor clothing.

During the revision work it was suggested also to include clothing products in the criterion. It was argued, however, that some types of clothing are only seldom exposed to light, so that exceptions should be made in such cases. It was agreed to fix the level

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at 5 for curtains and furniture fabrics and at 4 for all other products. It was also agreed to still use normal light fastness testing. The revised criterion is formulated as follows:

"For fabrics intended for furniture, curtains or drapes, the color fastness to light shall be at least level 5. For all other products the color fastness to light shall be at least level 4. A level of 4 is nevertheless allowed when fabrics intended for furniture, curtains or drapes are both light colored (standard depth < 1/12) and made of more than 20% wool or other keratin fibers, or more than 20% silk, or more than 20% linen or other bast fibers."