

**Review of several Parts 2 of EN 60335
with respect to the safety of children and older and disabled people**

An ANEC Research & Testing Project 2008

Commissioned by ANEC and led by Ricability

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Introduction

This is the second and final report of an ANEC Research & Testing project led by Ricability. The work of the project has had to reflect a fluid period in the development of more inclusive safety standards, since we have had to take into account the on-going discussions and subsequent decisions made by CENELEC (CLC) TC61 and CLC TC61 WG4. Members of the Ricability project team have participated in these committees, so have been able to track their activities.

The project consequently has had a number of parts but basically two main elements. The first was to develop an ANEC strategy for consumer representatives' contributions to the CLC TC61 WG4 meeting in September 2008. This involved revision of a number of proposals previously completed for ANEC, consideration of EN 60335 Part 1¹ and Part 2-36 and commenting on several proposals that were, at the time, still being discussed by CLC TC61 WG4. This element was completed by Summer 2008 when the interim report was submitted to ANEC.

The second element, covered by this final report, was to review and produce proposed changes to a further seven Parts 2 of the EN 60335 series of safety standards which cover household electric appliances. Again the proposals have had to reflect the latest CLC thinking based on their TC61 WG4 and plenary meetings in November and December 2008. The review and proposed text changes demonstrate how product standards can better address the safety of child and older and disabled users of household electric appliances.

The seven sets of proposals relate to the following standards:

EN 60335-2-5:2003	Particular requirements for dishwashers
EN 60335-2-11:2003	Particular requirements for tumble dryers
EN 60335-2-13:2003	Particular requirements for deep fat fryers, frying pans and similar appliances
EN 60335-2-15:2002	Particular requirements for appliances for heating liquids
EN 60335-2-24:2003	Particular requirements for refrigerating appliances, ice-cream appliances and ice-makers
EN 60335-2-30:2003	Particular requirements for room heaters
EN 60335-2-80:2003	Particular requirements for fans

The proposed text changes to the standards are presented as appendices to this report on CENELEC standard user comment forms for review by relevant working groups and technical committees. The proposed changes cover both safety issues that are common with those previously raised in reviews of other Parts 2 standards and other safety issues which are specific to these particular

¹ Part 1 covers general requirements: EN 60335-1:2002. Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety – Part 1: General requirements

standards. To distinguish between the two, the new standard-specific proposals are in red. Also in red are proposals that differ from or are not yet agreed by TC61 WG4.

A further appendix forms part of this submission – a set of safety checklists. They identify hazards and risks for children and older and disabled people with each of the seven household product groups considered in the current project.

Exclusion clause progress

These seven sets of proposals take into account the decisions made by CLC TC61 at their meeting on 1-3 December 2008, based on the proposals previously circulated to National Committees by CLC TC61 WG4, namely to EN 60335 Parts 2-2, 3, 6, 7, 23 and 52. CLC TC61 largely adopted the proposals with minor changes that were considered acceptable by the consumer representatives present. However there was no agreement on temperature limits for surface temperatures. Instead two options are to be put to National Committees in enquiry documents soon to be circulated. Therefore in our seven new sets of proposals we have included the temperature limits agreed by CLC TC61 WG4 at its special meeting on surface temperatures in June 2008, which we understand are acceptable to ANEC.

Similarly there was no agreement at CLC TC61 WG4 on temperature limits for handles, knobs, grips and similar, so they proposed to CLC TC61 that funding be sought from the European Commission for research on the issues. CLC TC61 agreed to this approach. Therefore in the attached proposals we have included the temperature limits agreed by CLC TC61 WG4 at their meeting in July 2007, which again we believe to be acceptable to ANEC.

It should also be noted that our concern remains about discarded plastics packaging being a hazard to children, but it is not addressed in the attached proposals. This is because the issue has been passed to CEN TC261 SC5, so is not being dealt with currently by CLC TC61 WG4. It will be re-introduced on completion of the CEN work.

It is unfortunate that the issues of safer temperatures and packaging have not yet been resolved. However we are encouraged by ANEC's significant strides in this area and in the knowledge that without their initiative, these issues are unlikely to have been even discussed by European standards committees.

Conclusion

As pointed out in our interim report in Summer 2008, ANEC has achieved notable success in recent years towards its long term aim to have the exclusion clause removed from the EN 60335 series of safety standards and to make these standards better address the needs of children and older and disabled people.

The attached seven sets of proposals have been developed to help advance that position further. However recent events at CLC TC61 and its WG4 clearly indicate that temperature limits on household electric appliances will be a matter for ongoing activity which will require further specific ANEC involvement.