

# SAFEGUARDS

## CONSUMER GOODS AND RETAIL

SOFTLINES

NO. 052/15 MARCH 2015

## JAPAN NEW SAFETY STANDARD FOR CORDS AND DRAWSTRINGS ON CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

Cords and drawstrings on children's clothing pose the risk of accidental strangulation and entrapment. Several countries have already set safety requirements to minimize the risk of accident. In June 2014, the Japanese Industrial Standards Committee (JISC) decided to formulate a new standard to ensure that children's clothes placed on the Japanese market are safe with regard to cords and drawstrings according to the requirements of the FDJIS L 4129 (final draft version)<sup>1</sup>. The final JIS will be promulgated in December 2015.

The new FDJIS L 4129 requires related industries to meet standards for such cords and drawstrings based on age group and body part to ensure that all children's clothing is safe. FDJIS L 4129 applies to all clothing with cords or drawstrings designed for children under 13 years of age and the general requirements are similar to those stated in the European safety standard: EN 14682<sup>2</sup>, but with some modifications made.



**TABLE 1. SCOPE OF APPLICATION FOR FDJIS L 4129**

NO.	FDJIS L 4129
Scope	Defines the requirements for cords and drawstrings attached to children's clothing Applies to cords and drawstrings on children's clothing for children up to age of 13 years.
Items not covered by standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bibs, diapers, pacifier holders, other products for children and childcare such as underwear.</li><li>• Shoes, boots or the like.</li><li>• Gloves, hats, mufflers, scarves and socks.</li><li>• Ties designed to wear with shirts and blouses.</li><li>• Belts, suspenders and armbands.</li></ul>

*To be con'd*

<sup>1</sup> [Announcement of the Draft JIS Concerning Children's Clothing \(New Safety Standard for Cords and Drawstrings\)](#) ; [JSA Web Store - FDJIS L 4129](#)

<sup>2</sup> [SGS- Safeguard 015/15](#)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clothing for private ceremonies or religious ceremonies, as well as clothing used for national or regional festivals.</li> <li>• Special sportswear or clothes for activities worn for a limited time under the supervision of caretakers of children excluding everyday clothes and nightwear.</li> <li>• Costumes for theatrical performances.</li> <li>• Aprons worn over everyday wear for a limited time to protect children from paint or food stains when painting or eating under the supervision of caretakers of children.</li> <li>• Japanese clothing (e.g. underwear for newborns, jinbe, yukata, etc.)</li> </ul> <p>Note: It is desirable to set separate safety standards for these products as needed.</p>
Young Child	Children under 7 years of age from birth
Old Child	Children over 7 years of age and under 13 years of age

In addition to the general requirements on cords and drawstrings for children's clothing, the standard also includes risk assessment consideration in Appendix E (Reference) to minimize the risk to children of accidentally being tangled in strings attached to their clothes; and safety of hoods in Appendix F (Reference).

Documents for FDJIS L 4129 are written in Japanese. However, SGS is committed to update any interested parties on this standard and the latest Japanese regulations on textile and apparel products. For details, please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.



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