

Document Control	
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## Commercial & public buildings – risk assessment

### 1.0 MEMBER GUIDANCE

BS EN 13120:2009+A1:2014 does not define building types. The standard requires internal blinds to be compliant if *"intended to be installed in premises where children aged 0-42 months are likely to have access or be present."*

However, the EU Decision which required the changes to the standard states:

*"... all reasonably foreseeable environments where young children have access to or are likely to be present, such as, for example, homes, hotels, hospitals, churches, shops, schools, nurseries, and public places in general."*

### 1.1 Definitions

In this guidance the BBSA describes two building types:

**Public buildings** are taken to be any premises open to the public whether they are publicly or privately owned or operated. Examples are; shops, libraries, hospitals, schools, theatres, hotels etc.

Compliant products must be installed at the very least in the publicly accessible areas of these buildings. However, as they are public buildings, children could feasibly go anywhere and the recommendation is that compliant products should be installed everywhere. The risk assessment attached can be used for that purpose.

**Commercial buildings** are taken to be premises where the public are typically not admitted such as offices, factories, laboratories and the like. In these situations child safety compliance would be determined by a risk assessment of the premises. It may be that certain areas of the building will require compliance, perhaps a reception area, whereas other areas may not.

If you have already determined that you will be supplying a product that is safe by design then the child safety requirements of BS EN 13120:2009+A1:2014 do not apply and therefore it is not necessary to use the attached risk assessment pro forma.

You will invariably not know whether children will be present or not in a commercial building. We therefore suggest that you ask your client to complete the attached pro-forma risk assessment which will inform you whether you have to provide internal blinds which are compliant with child safety standards.

Remember as a professional supplier or installer of blinds you are bound by the mandatory requirements of BS EN 13120:2009+A1:2014, however, the building owner or user is not. The legal responsibility for compliance lies with you as the supplier and/or installer.

### 1.2 What happens if the owner will not complete the form?

If the owner or user of a commercial building is unable or unwilling to complete the risk assessment then you will have to supply and install a child safe compliant product as the standard requires this where you do not know if children between the ages of 0 – 42 months are likely to have access or be present.

## Child Safety and Internal Window Blinds

### Risk Assessment for Supplying and Installing Blinds in Commercial Buildings

#### Introduction

The standards relating to child safety for internal window blinds will be mandated under the General Product Safety Regulations.

**This places a legal responsibility on all blind suppliers and professional blind installers** to ensure that internal blinds "intended to be installed in premises where children aged 0-42 months are likely to have access or be present" are compliant with child safety standards as detailed in BS EN 13120:2009+A1:2014.

In order for Anderson Interiors to determine what type of blind and operating method will be permissible for your building(s) the following risk assessment must be completed based on your known use of the building(s) at the address shown below.

Organisation Name: South Easton Health & Social Care Trust

Site Address: Ulster Hospital, Dundonald, Critical Care building, Microbiology.  
Upper Newtownards Rd  
BT16 1RH

Based on a risk assessment on behalf of the organisation stated above I confirm:

**Please tick the one statement that is applicable and sign and date this risk assessment where indicated:**



That children aged 0-42 months are **unlikely** to have access or be present in the building(s) at the address shown above

OR



That children aged 0-42 months are **likely** to have access or be present in the building(s) at the address shown above

OR



That children aged 0-42 months are **likely** to have access or be present in **some areas** of the building(s) at the address shown above.  
*In this case please complete the assessment overleaf/attached.*

