

European Committee For Standardization Publishes New Standard For Non-Domestic Tables

Further to the publication of **EN 15373:2007** and **EN 14703:2007** last year for non-domestic seating (see STR newsletter article: [New EN STD For Non-domestic Seating](#) from November 2007), the Technical Committee **CEN/TC 207 “Furniture”** of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) has published another new European Standard, **EN 15372:2008** for the **safety requirements and test methods of non-domestic tables**.

Safety Requirements:

EN 15372:2008 specifies requirements for the safety, strength and durability of all types of non-domestic tables including those with glass in their construction. These requirements include:

- **Edges** of table tops in direct contact with users shall be rounded or chamfered, other accessible edges are free from sharp edges and/or burrs.
- **Ends of hollow components** shall be closed or capped.
- **Moveable and adjustable parts** shall be designed to avoid injuries and inadvertent operation.
- **Load bearing part** of the table shall not come loose unintentionally.
- **Lubricated parts** to assist sliding shall be designed to protect users from lubricated stains when in normal use.
- No creation of **shear and squeeze points** under the influence of powered mechanisms (i.e., springs, gas lifts and motorized systems) or under the forces applied during normal use, while shear and squeeze points created only during setting up and folding are acceptable.
- **Stability** – the table shall not overturn under the specified vertical load when tested according to EN 1730:2000 clause 6.7 & clause 5.6 (for table with extension elements).
- **Strength and durability tests** with reference to EN 1730:2000 & EN 14072:2003.
- **Information for use**



Exemptions:

EN 15372:2008 does not apply to office tables or desks, tables for educational institutions and outdoor tables for which EN standards or drafts exist. With exception of the stability tests, it does not provide assessment of the suitability of any storage features included in non-domestic tables. It also does not cover requirements for the durability of castors and height adjustment mechanisms, electrical safety, resistance to ageing, degradation.

EN 15372:2008 is a totally new European Standard designed for non-domestic tables, which was approved by CEN on 2 February 2008 and published in March 2008. The European national standards organizations have to adopt and implement this new EN standard **at the latest by September 2008**, and any conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by the same period.