

# BIFMA Furniture Standards

NSSEA CONFERENCE  
November 17, 2010  
Phoenix, Arizona

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## AGENDA

- BIFMA OVERVIEW
- EXISTING ANSI/BIFMA FURNITURE STANDARDS FOR CONSIDERATION INTO NSF/NSSEA 380
- PROPOSED BSR/BIFMA X6.1-201X EDUCATIONAL STANDARD
  - Scope
  - Sizes
  - Tests
  - Your opportunity for input
- QUESTIONS

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## BUSINESS and INSTITUTIONAL FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

- What does BIFMA do?
1. Advocacy
  2. Market Information
  3. Standards Development

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**BUSINESS and INSTITUTIONAL FURNITURE  
MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION**

Why do it?

- 1 Efficient utilization of resources
- 2 More effective influence
- 3 Protect the public/industry

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**BUSINESS and INSTITUTIONAL FURNITURE  
MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION**

Statistics

- 1 North American Industry is \$8 billion annually
- 2 Over 240 Members
- 3 Accredited ANSI Developer for over 25 years
- 4 Currently nine ANSI Standards

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**EXISTING ANSI/BIFMA STANDARDS FOR  
CONSIDERATION INTO NSF/NSSEA 380**

- 1. ANSI/BIFMA X5.5-2008 Desk/Table Products – Tests
- 2. ANSI/BIFMA M7.1-2007 Standard Test Method for Determining VOC Emissions From Office Furniture
- 3. ANSI/BIFMA X5.1-2002 General-Purpose Office Chairs – Tests
- 4. ANSI/BIFMA X5.4-2005 Lounge Seating - Tests
- 5. ANSI/BIFMA X5.9-2004 Storage Units – Tests
- 6. BIFMA e3-2008 Furniture Sustainability Standard (proposed ANSI)
- 7. BIFMA G1-2002 Ergonomics Guideline for Furniture Used in Office Work Spaces

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**PROPOSED BSR/BIFMA X6.1-201X  
EDUCATIONAL SEATING – SCOPE**

1. Seating for Students: pre-school, elementary, middle school, high school, adult education, trade school, and college.
2. Includes: stacking chairs, tablet-arm chairs, chair/desks (combo units), stools, cafeteria tables with attached seating, and convertible bench/tables.
3. CAESAR anthropometric database (2002)
4. Ten-year life

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**PROPOSED BSR/BIFMA X6.1-201X  
EDUCATIONAL SEATING – SCOPE (cont.)**

Does not include:

- fixed theatre / auditorium seating
- flammability
- surface material durability
- cushioning materials
- product emissions
- ergonomic considerations

These properties may be covered by other standards

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**PROPOSED BSR/BIFMA X6.1-201X  
EDUCATIONAL SEATING – SIZE CATEGORIES**

Category A = seat height less than 343mm (13.5 inches)  
Category B = seat height equal to or greater than 343mm (13.5 inches) and less than 435mm (16.75 inches)  
Category C = seat height equal to or greater than 425mm (16.75 inches)

Measured with EN-1729 and if adjustable, then set at highest position

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**PROPOSED BSR/BIFMA X6.1-201X  
EDUCATIONAL SEATING – MULTIPLE  
SEATING**

- For multiple seat units without clearly defined seating areas (bench-type units), determine the number of seating positions by dividing the width of the seating surface by 570mm (22.5 inches).

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**PROPOSED BSR/BIFMA X6.1-201X  
EDUCATIONAL SEATING – TESTS**

LEGS / BASE

1. Caster durability
2. Leg Strength – Front application
3. Leg Strength- Side application
4. Footrest / Surface Strength Test

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**PROPOSED BSR/BIFMA X6.1-201X  
EDUCATIONAL SEATING – TESTS**

SEAT / ARMS

1. Drop test
2. Seat Swivel
3. Seat Durability
4. Arm Strength Test – vertical
5. Arm Strength Test – horizontal
6. Arm Durability

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**PROPOSED BSR/BIFMA X6.1-201X  
EDUCATIONAL SEATING – TESTS**

**BACKS**

- 1. Backrest Strength Test
- 2. Backrest Durability

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**PROPOSED BSR/BIFMA X6.1-201X  
EDUCATIONAL SEATING – TESTS**

**OTHER**

- 1. Chair Stability
- 2. Tablet Arm loading and durability
- 3. Stacked chair stability – tbd
- 4. Folding Rollaway Tables – ref. UL 2040

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**PROPOSED BSR/BIFMA X6.1-201X  
EDUCATIONAL SEATING – TIMING**

- 2nd Qtr. 2011 - Complete Test Requirements and Document Proposal
- 3rd Qtr. 2011 – Document review with BIFMA Association
- 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2011 - Begin ANSI Canvass
- 1st Qtr. 2012 – Complete ANSI Canvass comments
- 2nd Qtr. 2012 – ANSI approval and public availability of X6.1

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**PROPOSED BSR/BIFMA X6.1-201X  
EDUCATIONAL SEATING – YOUR INPUT**

PLEASE CONSIDER SHARING YOUR INPUT INTO THIS PROPOSED STANDARD.

- DOCUMENT DRAFTING TEAM
- ANSI CANVASS

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**QUESTIONS?**

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