



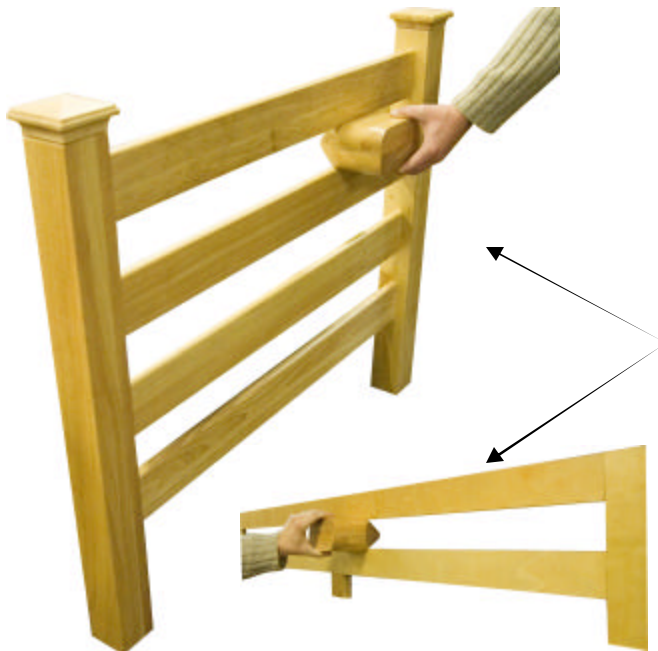
# WHY SAFETY?

Good question. University Loft Company believes safety is important. Parents sending their students to college think so too. Shouldn't you? In an effort to offer our partners more information and a better understanding as it relates to student safety, please read the following ways in which we design our product to allow for the safest environment when they are away from home.



University Loft Company's beds meet the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Requirements in regards to Child Safety Standards as they relate to entrapment and guardrail safety. These standards are in response to approximately 10 deaths per year caused by entrapment in both child and adult bunk beds and went into effect in July 2000.

*16 CFR Parts 1213, 1500, and 1513*



Simply put, the entrapment requirements specify that the distance between spreader rails on each bed end be small enough to prevent the passage of a 3.5" X 6.2" block or large enough to permit the passage of a 9" diameter sphere which is roughly the space needed to withdraw a child's head.

***For more information on safety, please reference the following resources:***

<http://www.universityloft.com/why-safety-standards.aspx>

[www.cpsc.gov/businfo/frnotices/fr00/bunkbed.pdf](http://www.cpsc.gov/businfo/frnotices/fr00/bunkbed.pdf)

To take it one step further...the Consumer Product Safety Commission defines a bunk bed as "any bed in which the underside of the foundation (i.e. sleep surface) is over 30" from the floor".

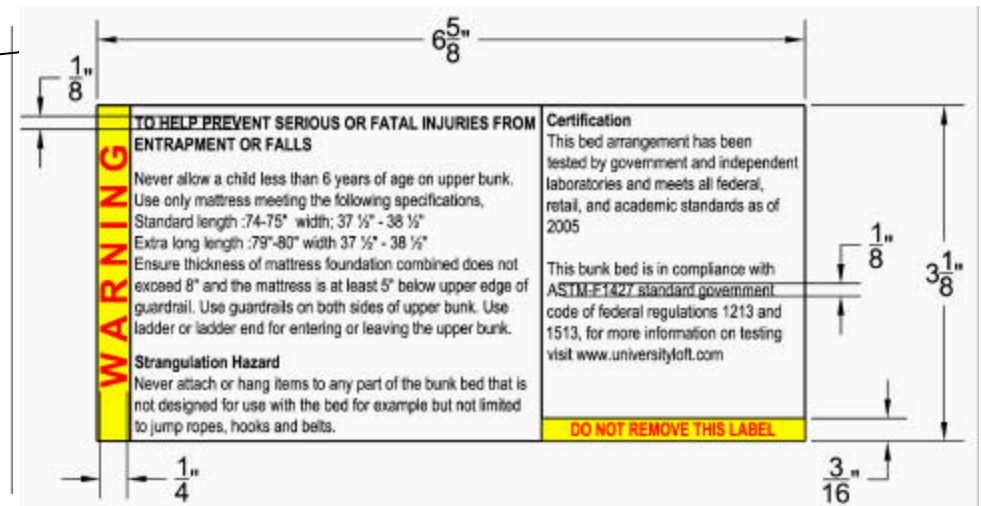


The requirements go on to state that any bunk bed shall provide at least two upper bunk guardrails, at least one on each side of the bed.

**Important to note:** University Loft Company beds when configured with wood rails/decks or spring units and matching guardrails at the appropriate height placement meet these standards.

**Why is this important?** If you are using "tool less" bed systems that allow for the sleep surface to be adjusted, then even though the sleep surface may start out at a less than 30" distance from floor to the bottom of the mattress you are still exposed as the sleep surface can freely be adjusted to a height greater than requirements allow. Thus your bed just went from safe to out of compliance. Prior to any use of this bed by minors the University staff should review the sleep surface positions to ensure they are low enough to not be classified as a "bunk".

Each one of our University Loft Company bed ends are now being produced with the appropriate warning label. (See below example) It is vital that these labels not be removed from the bed ends and that this is reviewed at the yearly inventory checks by your staff.



**A note about ladders...** Although our bed ends are designed with ladder ends for ease of climbing onto the top bunk, there are times when a ladder is necessary. This could be due to the space allowance or configuration of beds in the room. There is also a growing trend on campuses to provide students the flexibility to use the ladder or the end of the bunk. With this new addition to the room it is imperative that they are used correctly in order to ensure the safety of the students at all times. The warning label on all of our new ladders will notate the exact pin position for the springs and rails of the upper bunk to allow the ladder to perform optimally. Any configuration of the ladders that does not follow this pin position is discouraged by University Loft and does not meet our safety standards or our warranty policy.



<b>WARNING</b>	
<b>LADDER USE INSTRUCTIONS</b>	
●Use the ladder only for entering and leaving the upper bunk.	
●Use the ladder only when the upper bunk is located at pin positions 5 and 6 from the top for the wood bed ends and pin positions 7 and 8 from the top for the metal bed ends.	
●Use the ladder only when the ladder is attached firmly to the upper bunk side rail (not the end rail) and the bottom of the ladder is resting firmly on the floor.	
●Never horseplay on the ladder.	
●Never hang items, including clothing, from the ladder.	
time.	
●Never allow a child under 6 years of age to use the ladder.	
<b>DO NOT REMOVE THIS LABEL</b>	

**A little risk management can offer peace of mind.** The consumer safety specification does not address bunk beds for institutional use (for example, dormitories, prisons, and military facilities). Therefore most higher education institutions are exempt from this standard as it pertains to *normal operations*. Where special attention should be noted are instances of camps & conferences, sibling over-nights, campus preview events, and rental functions.

Institutions can be at great exposure when minors stay on campus. Most college & universities have controls set in place to monitor their students, but many lack the ability to effectively oversee visitors.



We strongly suggest institutions consult with a Risk Management expert on a regular basis in order to update and monitor the liability exposure.

**What can be done?** Everyone wants their children to be safe. The responsibility falls to each one of us. As a leading manufacturer of furniture designed for youth, University Loft Company wants the very best for our partners.

As the body entrusted with both the educational development of students and their well being, universities need to act in a responsible manner by voluntarily following these guidelines. This not only protects the students, but it protects the university from potential legal responsibility and reduces the amount of liability exposure.



By partnering with a responsible manufacturer like University Loft, colleges and universities are taking the necessary steps to ensure they have a partner should the unforeseen happen. Such steps include disaster recovery plans, product liability coverage and risk mitigation programs.

**University Loft Company** holds 13 U.S. patents on our bed configurations. As a global leader in the student housing industry, we are able to offer our expertise and guidance to our partners in a wide variety of areas. From engineering and design to space utilization and modular accommodations, our bed configurations allow students to customize their rooms to suit their taste in a safe and



reliable manner. Since 1986, we have provided solutions to over 1,100 college & universities throughout the world.

Our products have passed the rigorous testing required to sell in the retail market. By adopting the safety standards mandated by the U.S. Consumer Safety Commission, we help reduce the liability and exposure institutions face.

**Final note...** We know that it may not be realistic at this time to replace all existing beds on your campus to meet the current safety standard. That is why we are suggesting that our partners discuss this safety information with their risk management team on campus and take the appropriate measures to ensure safety. We would like to do our part by offering to ship you safety labels that you can apply to your existing beds that signify that they do not meet current standards and should not be used by anyone other than an adult. Please contact our office and speak to your project manager or sales representative for a consultation and to place your order for free labels to be shipped to your door for immediate application.