



# TECHNICAL BULLETIN

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**SUBJECT:** The intent of this document is to clarify the definition of a Window Opening Control Device (WOCD). There has been some confusion regarding what is and what is not a WOCD. Part of this confusion stems from the fact that devices known as vent stops can look and even partially function like WOCDs; however most vent stops do not satisfy the requirements of ASTM F2090-10, *Standard Specification for Window Fall Prevention Devices With Emergency Escape (Egress) Release Mechanisms* and thus are not WOCDs.

*Note: WOCD's are not intended as window fall prevention devices.*

*Local and state codes may or may not require compliance with ASTM F2090.*

## **ACTION: What are WOCD's?**

A WOCD is a product that has been tested to the specifications in ASTM F2090-10. This product will control a window sash opening to a predetermined position under normal operation, but can be released to allow the sash full operation for egress. Once the sash is opened beyond the device set point, fully closing the window will reset the control function automatically. To open fully from the controlled open position the user must engage two independent single action release mechanisms or one double action release mechanism.

To conform to the ASTM F2090-10 definition of a WOCD there are also requirements for a prescribed static load, cycle testing, minimum operational force and specific labeling and marking instructions.

The device is applicable to any operable window. A separate type of WOCD device may be required for each window type. Any one device is not required to universally apply to all window types.

There are many WOCD products available that conform to ASTM F2090-10. There are also several similar products that limit sash travel, but do not conform to ASTM F2090-10. This has been the source of some confusion.

## **Hung and sliding window products**

There are several types of sash travel limiters for hung windows such as night latches and vent stops. Many of these products can limit the sash travel and can also be bypassed to open a window fully; however, if these products do not automatically reset through the complete sash travel cycle, they do not conform to ASTM F2090-10 and then by definition are not WOCDs.



Night Latch/Vent Stop (not WOCD)



Single-Action WOCD (double hung)  
(two of these devices are required)

### Casement, Awning and Hopper Window Products

There are products available that limit casement sash travel. These are typically a strut arm that is fixed to both the sash and the frame by means of a sliding track that stops the window from opening past a preset distance. Even if this is applied in a location that will limit a casement sash opening to less than 4 inches, it may **not** conform to ASTM F2090-10. If it can be opened fully by means of two independent single action release mechanisms (or one double action release mechanism) **and** automatically resets the control function after the complete cycle, it meets the mechanical requirements of ASTM F2090-10. The device must also comply with the additional requirements of ASTM F2090-10.



Casement WOCD



Casement WOCD in open and reset positions

Another source of confusion is the name of some similar products. Products that are named “Sash Limiter” or WOLD (Window Opening Limiting Device) can be misleading. Only products that meet the requirements of ASTM F2090-10 may be represented as WOCDs. AAMA would suggest that any product so represented should be tested to ASTM F2090-10 by an independent laboratory and that a corresponding test report should be made available.