

# Vaughan-Bassett Enters Stability Verified Program

October 22, 2018 - GALAX, Va. - Vaughan-Bassett's new home furnishings collection with Ben and Erin Napier of HGTV's "Home Town" series will carry the industry's new UL Stability Verified Mark.

The licensed collections of bedroom and dining room furnishings were unveiled this week at the High Point Market and will be available in retail stores in early 2019.

The residential furniture industry has had a voluntary safety standard for bedroom furniture stability since 2000, but shoppers can't easily distinguish between furniture that has been designed and tested to the stability standard and that which does not meet the standard. UL (Underwriters Laboratories), a global safety science company, partnered with the American Home Furnishings Alliance (AHFA) on the new UL Stability Verified Mark to help consumers make this distinction. Program enrollment for AHFA member companies began October 1. It will be available industry-wide January 1, 2019.

"As the largest manufacturer of wooden residential furniture in the United States, Vaughan-Bassett has been committed to meeting the voluntary stability standard for bedroom furniture since the standard's adoption. The new Laurel Mercantile Home collections will be the first to receive the 'Stability Verified' Mark, and all of our other collections will follow," says Vaughan-Bassett President Doug Bassett.

The UL Stability Verified Mark means a piece of furniture has met all the stability requirements within the voluntary ASTM safety standard for bedroom storage furniture. The safety standard specifically targets bedroom storage furniture because it is involved in the majority of furniture tip-over accidents.

Data from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission shows children age 5 and under are especially vulnerable in these types of accidents.

To participate in the UL Stability Verified program, a manufacturer must first have a UL inspector visit the company's factory and confirm that the proper equipment, trained personnel, test methods and record-keeping all are in place to conduct the two stability tests required in the voluntary standard. Companies also must have a corrective action process in place for identifying, modifying and retesting any products that fail the stability tests. This assessment must be repeated each year.

Second, UL reviews the company's product test data to establish that the units are eligible to carry the Product Stability Verified Mark. All critical design components for the covered products are documented, and UL repeats stability testing on sample units at the factory to confirm test results. This product assessment also occurs on an annual basis.

Data from companies participating in the UL Stability Verified program, including a list of all products eligible to carry the Product Stability Verified Mark, is accessible to consumers on UL's "Verify" website, <https://Verify.UL.com>.

"When parents are shopping for new furniture, choosing Stability Verified products is one important safety step, but Vaughan-Bassett advises all its customers to use furniture tip restraints - which we ship with all our bedroom storage furniture - to anchor any furniture in the home that might tip if

pulled on or climbed on by a curious toddler,” says Bassett.

More information on the UL Stability Verified Mark is available from Michael O’Hara,  
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