



UNITED STATES
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

Memorandum

Date: JUL - 7 2009

TO : The Commission
THROUGH: Todd Stevenson, Secretary *TS*
Cheryl Falvey, General Counsel *CAF*
Jacqueline Elder, Acting Executive Director *je*
FROM : Colin B. Church *CBC*
Voluntary Standards Coordinator

SUBJECT : FY 2009 Voluntary Standards Activities Midyear Report

Attached is the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission staff's *Voluntary Standards Activities FY 2009 Midyear Report (October 2008 – March 2009)* which is forwarded for your information. If you have any questions, please call Colin Church at 301-504-7245.

ATTACHMENT:

Note: This document has not been reviewed or accepted by the Commission.
Initials RF Date 7-7-09

CPSA 6(b)(1) CLEARED for PUBLIC

NO MFRS/PRVTLBKS OR PRODUCTS IDENTIFIED *7/7/09*

EXCEPTED BY: PETITION RULEMAKING ADMIN. PRCDG

WITH PORTIONS REMOVED: _____

Voluntary Standards Activities 10/1/08 – 3/31/09

SUMMARY

Twenty four new, revised, or reaffirmed voluntary safety standards, for which the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff monitored or provided technical support, were completed during the period from 10/1/08 – 3/31/09. These addressed bath seats, bed rails, bicycles, blind cords, cribs (commercial), furniture, generators (portable), recreational helmets (two standards), high chairs, infant carriers (frame), infant carriers (hand-held), infant carriers (soft), infant swings, infant tubs, ladders, playground equipment (home), playground surfacing, stationary activity centers, strollers, toys, treestands, and window guards (two standards).

In total, the CPSC staff provided technical support to or monitored the development of 31 voluntary safety standards which are included in the information that follows. The number of voluntary standards in which the CPSC staff was involved was limited during the reporting period to focus agency resources on regulatory activities associated with the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 which was signed into law on August 14, 2008.

All 31 voluntary standards development activities were handled by three standards development/coordinating organizations: ASTM International (previously called the American Society for Testing and Materials), the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL). These standards provide safety provisions addressing potential hazards associated with consumer products found in our homes, schools, and recreational areas.

THE “V-STAR” REPORT

Below you will find the current Voluntary Standards Tracking and Access Report (V-STAR) which shows, among other things, the objective of the standard under development, the name of the employee leading each activity, and the status of the standard. Information from the CPSC staff was compiled and edited by the Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction to prepare the report. This report is issued twice a year, both for the middle and the end of the CPSC fiscal year which runs from October 1st to September 30th. Below is the *V-STAR FY 2009 Midyear Report (October 2008 – March 2009)*.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COMMENT

During the reporting period, the CPSC staff continued the program to provide information on CPSC staff voluntary standards activities. Draft CPSC staff recommendations on issues to be considered by voluntary standards organizations were placed on the CPSC web site (www.cpsc.gov) to allow for public review and comment.

ONE-STOP SHOPPING FOR VOLUNTARY CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARDS

Maintenance of the CPSC web site continued to make it easier for users to find more extensive information on voluntary consumer product safety standards. Through the CPSC web site, users were able to access the computer search engines of the three major standards organizations (ANSI, ASTM International, and UL) which handle almost all of the voluntary safety standards on which the CPSC staff works. Further, the most recent annual report on CPSC voluntary standards activities was added to the CPSC web site.

***VOLUNTARY STANDARDS
TRACKING AND ACCESS REPORT***

***CPSC STAFF
VOLUNTARY STANDARDS ACTIVITIES***

**FY 2009 MIDYEAR REPORT
(October 2008 – March 2009)**



**U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland 20814**

This report was prepared by CPSC staff, has not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the views of, the Commission.

***VOLUNTARY STANDARDS
TRACKING AND ACCESS REPORT***

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff works cooperatively with standards developers, consumers, industry and other interested parties to develop consumer product safety standards. A description of these activities for the first half of the 2009 Fiscal Year, from October 1, 2008, through March 31, 2009, follows. The report contains, among other things, the objective of the standard under development, the name of the employee leading each activity, and the status of the standard.

In 2009, the number of voluntary standards activities in which staff participated was limited, to focus agency resources on regulatory activities associated with the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008. Voluntary standard activities in which staff previously participated and for which a new or revised standard was completed are included in this report (shown with an asterisk).

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CPSC Staff Voluntary Standards Activities

FY 2009 Midyear Report

<i>Product</i>	Bassinets and Cradles
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Hackett, Patty
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bassinets and Cradles</i> (ASTM F2194) to strengthen its safety provisions.
<i>Activities</i>	<p>CPSC staff participated in a 10/29/08 subcommittee meeting at which the Task Group on Fabric Detachment presented a summary of In-Depth Investigations (IDIs), and reviewed proposals to address potential hazards. At a 3/16/09 subcommittee meeting, this task group presented proposed requirements, which included testing for spacing requirements when a product is in the intended use position and in foreseeable use conditions (any arrangement of fabric that is perceived to support a child). These proposed requirements will be sent to the subcommittee for ballot. In addition, the Task Group on Mobile Requirements recommended that mobiles intended only to be used as part of a bassinet do not need to have a warning label on them.</p> <p>At the 3/16 meeting, a task group was established to review CPSC data regarding deaths due to added bedding. Another task group was established to review rocking incidents. CPSC staff agreed to participate in both of these task groups.</p>
<i>Next Action</i>	Participate in task groups; participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product **Bath Seats**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Bath Seats* (ASTM F1967) to eliminate or reduce the risk of infant drowning resulting from tipover and climbing out hazards.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Bath Seats* (ASTM F1967-08a) was approved on 11/1/08. It contains revisions that make the language consistent with the infant tub standard.

At a 10/29/08 subcommittee meeting, CPSC staff reviewed the requirements of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) and indicated that bath seats would be one of first two durable infant products to be regulated. Staff requested information regarding concerns about or the adequacy of the ASTM standard. At a 3/18/09 subcommittee meeting, staff updated the subcommittee on the CPSIA status and indicated that the Commission would be considering a draft notice of proposed rulemaking in 8/09. Health Canada provided an update on the draft of their governmental review on bath seats. It was expected to be posted online in 4/09. Their review indicated that most of the comments they have received support a ban.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product ***Bed Rails**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bed Rails* (ASTM F2085) to improve the marking and labeling as well as to clarify testing procedures.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bed Rails* (ASTM F2085-08a) was approved on 12/1/08. Revisions included performance requirements to address bed rail breakage and specifications for gap tolerance with a test mattress in place.

CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/27/08 and 3/16/09. At the 3/16 meeting, ballot results for the letter size in warnings and a revision to the introduction were reviewed. A ballot for these provisions will be forwarded to the ASTM F15 Committee. In addition, incident data involving bed rails were reviewed, and the review resulted in the formation of a task group to look at locking mechanism failures.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

<i>Product</i>	*Bicycles
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Amodeo, Vince
<i>Purpose</i>	To develop new or revised ASTM safety standards for bicycles and bicycle components.
<i>Activities</i>	<p>A revised ASTM <i>Standard Specification for Nonpowered Bicycle Trailers Designed for Human Passengers</i> (ASTM F1975-09) was approved on 2/1/09. Revisions included modifications to the occupant restraint system tests and coupling system tests, as well as a revision of the test method for structural integrity during rollover.</p> <p>In addition, a new <i>Standard Classification for Bicycle Usage</i> (ASTM F2043-09) was approved on 1/1/09. The new standard expands the definitions of use conditions and requires that a bicycle be labeled with a graphic showing the appropriate use condition.</p>
<i>Next Action</i>	Monitor ASTM subcommittee activities.
<i>Product</i>	*Blind Cords
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Paul, Caroleene
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the Window Covering Manufacturers Association (WCMA) <i>Standard for Safety of Corded Window Covering Products</i> (ANSI/WCMA A100.1) to reduce strangulation hazards associated with window covering cords.
<i>Activities</i>	A new ANSI/WCMA <i>Provisional Standard for Safety of Corded Window Covering Products</i> (ANSI/WCMA A100.1-2009) was approved on 2/27/09. The provisional standard included new design criteria and safety warning hangtags for Roman shades.
<i>Next Action</i>	Monitor ANSI subcommittee activities.
<i>Product</i>	Booster Seats
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Hackett, Patty
<i>Purpose</i>	To assist in the revision of the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Booster Seats</i> (ASTM F 2640) to address hazards associated with booster seats.
<i>Activities</i>	CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/30/08 and 3/18/09. At the 10/30 meeting, the Task Group on Attachment to Adult Chairs reported that it was continuing work on vertical gap openings, seat back distance, and leg openings. At the 3/18 meeting, the results of a ballot to revise the labeling requirements and to add performance requirements for restraint systems (similar to those for high chairs) was reviewed.
<i>Next Action</i>	Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product **Cribs (Commercial)**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To develop safety requirements for a new ASTM safety standard for cribs in commercial settings, such as hotels and day care centers.

Activities A new ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Commercial Cribs* (ASTM F2710-08) was approved on 12/1/08. CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/28/08 and 3/17/09. Staff also participated in discussions regarding development of requirements for evacuation cribs (cribs that would be used in a daycare environment and would facilitate evacuation of several children in the event of an emergency). At the 3/17 meeting, it was proposed to allow an exemption to the requirement that all commercial cribs be designed to meet the evacuation requirements. This was expected to be sent to the subcommittee for ballot. CPSC staff participated in the Task Group on Wood Screws, and the task group planned to review test proposals.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product **Cribs (Full-Size)**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Full-Size Cribs* (ASTM F1169) to reduce the hazards associated with these products.

Activities CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/28/08 and 3/17/09. At the 3/17 meeting, a task group was established to review all the warnings. The Task Group on Wooden Slat Breakage presented a report on its activities. Additional work is required before new requirements can be proposed. CPSC staff is participating in this task group.

The Task Group on Side Assembly made a proposal that would limit the use of drop sides. The proposed requirement would require all four vertical sides of a crib to be fixed, up to a height of 20 inches. This would allow for designs that use drop gates. The proposal will be sent to the subcommittee for ballot.

During the reporting period, CPSC staff participated in task group activities on hardware. Screws that loosen over time and breakage of plastic parts are among the issues still to be addressed by the task group.

Next Action Participate in task group activities; participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product **Cribs (Non-Full-Size) and Play Yards**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Non-Full-Size Baby Cribs/Play Yards* (ASTM F406) to reduce the hazards associated with these products.

Activities CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/28/08 and 3/17/09. A ballot to update the standard to include metric dimensions was reviewed, and additional work on this issue was needed. A task group was established to review requirements for attachment openings (or the need for a displacement test). The standard uses the term "attachment" to mean both a product and a junction, and requires clarification. CPSC staff will participate in the task group.

Next Action Participate in task group activities; participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product ***Furniture**

Staff Contact Whitfield, Troy

Purpose To develop a new standard for clothing storage chests and to revise the ASTM *Standard Safety Specification for Chests, Door Chests, and Dressers* (ASTM F2057) to address injuries and deaths of children associated with furniture tip-over. Further, to revise the UL *Standard for Household, Commercial, and Professional-Use Carts and Standards for Use with Audio/Video Equipment* (UL 1678) to address injuries and deaths of children associated with television tip-over.

Activities A new ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Clothing Storage Chests* (ASTM F2598-09) was approved on 2/1/09. The new standard includes requirements for labeling, lid support mechanisms, and finishes and materials compliant with the Federal Hazardous Substances Act and the ASTM *Standard for Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety* (ASTM F963).

Next Action Monitor ASTM and UL standard activities.

Product ***Generators (Portable)**

Staff Contact Buyer, Janet

Purpose To develop a new UL *Standard for Portable Engine Generator Assemblies* (UL Subject 2201) to reduce carbon monoxide deaths associated with portable generators.

Activities A new UL *Standard for Portable Engine Generator Assemblies* (UL 2201) was approved on 3/4/09. The new standard includes requirements for Ground-Fault Circuit-Interrupters on 125 volt circuits, receptacle protection from weather, and complete generator assembly protection to pass rain and sprinkler tests.

Next Action Monitor UL standard activities.

Product ***Helmets (Recreational)**

Staff Contact McCallion, Rick

Purpose To revise the ASTM safety standards and test methods for recreational helmets to improve safety.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Specification for Helmets Used for Downhill Mountain Bicycle Racing* (ASTM F1952-09) was approved on 1/1/09. Revisions included a chin bar test (as specified in *Standard Test Methods for Equipment and Procedures Used in Evaluating the Performance Characteristics of Protective Headgear* (ASTM F1446)). In addition, format changes were made to harmonize this standard with other ASTM standards. These changes do not affect the technical requirements or procedures in the standard.

 A new ASTM *Standard Guide for Manufacturers for Labeling Headgear Products* (ASTM F2727-09) was approved on 1/1/09. The new guide provides manufacturers with guidelines for labeling headgear for recreational and non-motorized sports. The information included in this guideline is intended to assist in the development of more effective labels and instructions to help inform consumers of important safety and use issues.

Next Action Monitor ASTM subcommittee activities.

Product **High Chairs**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for High Chairs* (ASTM F404) to strengthen its safety provisions dealing with entrapment and falls.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for High Chairs* (ASTM F404-08) was approved on 11/1/08. Revisions included an update to the restraint requirements, specifications for openings on the sides of high chairs, a rationale for the wedge block, the addition of a test harness and a leg/foot probe test, and editorial changes to address interpretation issues.

 CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/27/08 and 3/16/09. At the 3/16 meeting, CPSC incident data were reviewed and a suggestion was made to review the restraint requirements again. In addition, a task group was established to address hazards associated with children climbing out of high chairs.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product **Infant Carriers (Frame)**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To assist in revisions to the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Frame Child Carriers* (ASTM F2549) to minimize the risk of injuries to occupants of infant frame carriers.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Frame Child Carriers* (ASTM F2549-08) was approved on 12/1/08. Revisions included performance requirements for kickstands, toy accessories, and requirements to address unintentional folding.

CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/27/08 and 3/18/09. These meetings were combined with the meetings on soft infant carriers. The subcommittee reviewed ballot results (one on soft carriers dealing with warnings and one for frame carriers pertaining to the test equipment requirements) which will be sent to the ASTM F15 Committee for ballot.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product **Infant Carriers (Hand-Held)**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Hand-Held Infant Carriers* (ASTM F2050) to minimize the risk of injuries to occupants.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Hand-Held Infant Carriers* (ASTM F2050-08) was approved on 11/1/08. Revisions included an increase of the handle load in the handle integrity test.

CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/30/08 and 3/18/09, as well as a task group to evaluate handle integrity. At the 3/18 meeting, the Task Group on Handle Integrity reviewed proposed revisions to the auto-locking handle test. It was expected that these proposals would be sent to the subcommittee for ballot. The task group also reviewed the results of dynamic tests conducted by CPSC staff. The task group was expected to continue to work on developing a requirement.

Next Action Participate on task group; participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product **Infant Carriers (Soft)**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Soft Infant Carriers* (ASTM F2236) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Soft Infant Carriers* (ASTM F2236-08a) was approved on 11/1/08. Revisions to the standard included a revision to warning labels, added performance requirements for toy accessories, and the removal of model number requirements.

CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/27/08 and 3/18/09. These meetings were combined with the meetings on soft infant carriers. The subcommittee reviewed ballot results (one on soft carriers dealing with warnings and one for frame carriers pertaining to the test equipment requirements) which will be sent to the ASTM Committee for ballot.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product **Infant Gates**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Expansion Gates and Expandable Enclosures* (ASTM F1004) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/30/08 and 3/18/09. The requirements of the push out test were reviewed and will be sent to the subcommittee for ballot. Prior to the reporting period, CPSC staff provided incident data involving injuries to adults (e.g., from tripping). The data were presented to the subcommittee, but there was no agreement to expand the scope of the standard to cover adults. CPSC staff offered to propose a special study that would provide a more in-depth review of the data, such as the types of gates involved in incidents.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product **Infant Swings**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Swings* (ASTM F2088) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Swings* (ASTM F2088-08) was approved on 1/15/08. The revisions included additional requirements for toy accessories and changes to the requirements for structural integrity, and requirements for the restraint system, battery operated swings, and stability.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product ***Infant Tubs**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To develop a new ASTM safety standard to address the hazards associated with infant tubs.

Activities A new ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Bath Tubs* (ASTM F2670-09) was approved on 2/1/09. The new standard includes static load tests and requirements to address hazards associated with elevated surfaces and stability.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product **Infant Walkers**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Infant Walkers* (ASTM F977) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities At a 10/30/08 subcommittee meeting, CPSC staff reviewed the requirements of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) and indicated that infant walkers would be one of first two durable infant products to be regulated. Staff requested information regarding concerns about or the adequacy of the ASTM standard. At a 3/18/09 subcommittee meeting, staff updated the subcommittee on the CPSIA status and indicated that the Commission would be considering a draft notice of proposed rulemaking in 8/09.

At the 3/18 meeting, a report of the Stair Test Task Group provided results of round robin testing, but additional work is needed. In addition, a task group is considering potential performance requirements for walkers with parking brakes. CPSC staff is participating in both task groups.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

<i>Product</i>	*Ladders
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Caton, Tom
<i>Purpose</i>	To provide technical support to the ANSI A14 Subcommittee for Ladder Safety and Ladder Standards. The standards within this subcommittee's responsibility include: <i>Wood Ladders</i> (ANSI A14.1), <i>Portable Metal Ladders</i> (ANSI A14.2), <i>Job Made Wooden Ladders</i> (ANSI A14.4), <i>Portable Plastic Reinforced Ladders</i> (ANSI A14.5), <i>Portable Special Duty Ladders</i> (ANSI A14.10), and <i>Mobile Ladder Stands and Mobile Ladder Stand Platforms</i> (ANSI A14.7).
<i>Activities</i>	A revised standard, ANSI <i>Job Made Wooden Ladders</i> (ANSI A14.4), was approved on 3/10/09. The revisions included requirements for lumber grades in construction of wooden ladders, revised engineering calculations for lumber grades and sizes, editorial changes to simplify and clarify language, and revised figures to include dimensional detail.
<i>Next Action</i>	Monitor ANSI subcommittee activities.
<i>Product</i>	*Playground Equipment (Home)
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Whitfield, Troy
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Home Playground Equipment</i> (ASTM F1148) to strengthen its safety provisions.
<i>Activities</i>	A revised ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Home Playground Equipment</i> (ASTM F1148-08) was approved on 11/1/08. Revisions included updates to requirements for warning labels to address hazards associated with clothing and the addition of inappropriate accessories (e.g., jump ropes), use zone definitions for swings with unlimited lateral motion, and the elimination of swinging components from overhead ladders/upper body equipment.
<i>Next Action</i>	Monitor ASTM subcommittee activities.

Product *Playground Surfacing

Staff Contact McCallion, Rick

Purpose To revise ASTM standards associated with playground surfacing to reduce the risk of fall-related injuries, especially life-threatening head injuries. These standards include the *Standard Specification for Impact Attenuation of Surface Materials Within the Use Zone of Playground Equipment* (ASTM F1292), *Standard Specification for Determination of Firmness and Stability of Surface Systems Under and Around Playground Equipment* (ASTM F1951) and the *Standard Guide for ASTM Standards on Playground Surfacing* (ASTM F2223). The Guide describes how to apply existing ASTM standards to evaluate impact attenuation, accessibility characteristics, and product characteristics when selecting surface systems for use under and around playground equipment.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Specification for Determination of Accessibility of Surface Systems Under and Around Playground Equipment* (ASTM F1951-09) was approved on 3/1/09. The revisions included administrative changes to remove notes and place them within the standard and the addition of a definition for use zones, similar to the one in the *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Playground Equipment for Public Use* (ASTM F1487).

Next Action Monitor ASTM subcommittee activities.

Product **Smoke Alarms**

Staff Contact Lee, Arthur

Purpose To revise the UL *Standard for Single- and Multiple-Station Smoke Alarms* (UL 217) and to revise the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) *National Fire Alarm Code* (NFPA 72) to improve consumer safety.

Activities CPSC staff participated on the NFPA 72 Home Occupancy Usage (HOU) task group to evaluate the effectiveness of different smoke alarm sensors. The scope of the task group was to evaluate new information and claims relative to the performance of specific types of smoke detection (ionization and photoelectric) and determine if the current NFPA 72 requirements for placement and usage of non-specific types of smoke detector sensors in smoke alarms provide adequate life safety. CPSC staff participated in monthly teleconferences from 10/1/08 through 3/31/09. Staff also participated in an NFPA 72 Report on Comments meeting in 10/08 for the development of the next edition of the NFPA 72 code.

CPSC staff participated in two UL 217 meetings in 10/08 and 3/09 to address improvements to the standard for smoke alarms. CPSC staff also participated in three task groups for UL 217 to address nuisance alarms, additional performance tests, and labeling. Staff completed testing to support task group activities on nuisance alarms and is drafting a report of the work. Staff presented information on the testing to the NFPA 72 Committee and the UL 217 Standards Technical Panel.

Next Action Participate in UL 217 task group activities; follow-up on actions from the 10/08 NFPA 72 meeting.

Product **Stationary Activity Centers**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Stationary Activity Centers* (ASTM F2012) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Stationary Activity Centers* (ASTM F2012-08) was approved on 11/1/08. Revisions included requirements for the stability of non-saucer-type products.

CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/30/08 and 3/18/09. At the 3/18 meeting, a task group addressing hazards associated with activity centers that can rotate around a central post discussed proposed requirements.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product **Strollers**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Carriages and Strollers* (ASTM F833) to strengthen the safety provisions.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Carriages and Strollers* (ASTM F833-08) was approved on 12/1/08. The revised standard includes a revision to the impact test method and the test surface referenced in the standard.

CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/29/08 and 3/16/09. At the 3/16 meeting, the results of a ballot were reviewed. The ballot dealt with:

- Updating the passive containment restraint system, which was expected to be included in the next revision of the standard; and
- Limiting the scope to not include children’s vehicles or similar wheeled products that have handles for caregivers.

Several task groups (Front Stability Test, Definition of Carriage, Impact Test, and Anchorage Points) provided updates on their activities. The Task Group on Anchorage Points proposed that the test for anchor points be revised to make sure the critical point is defined as the junction between the strap and the seat, not the anchor point. This revision was expected to be included in the next ballot. Incident data provided by CPSC staff were reviewed. Based on the review and the number of stroller/car incidents, the subcommittee was considering a potential requirement for reflective surfaces.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product **Toddler Beds**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toddler Beds* (ASTM F1821) to include corner post requirements and to update the standard's warning language.

Activities CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/28/08 and 3/16/09. At the 3/16 meeting, the results of a ballot to add an entrapment probe test and warnings were reviewed and these additions were expected to be included in the next revisions of the standard.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.

Product ***Toys**

Staff Contact Midgett, Jonathan

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety* (ASTM F963) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety* (ASTM F963-08) was approved on 12/1/08. The revisions included new requirements for magnets and magnetic components (use and abuse testing and labeling requirements), safety requirements for products that have folding mechanisms, and requirements to address toys that pose impaction or jaw entrapment hazards. The revision also included removing requirements for toy chests. Those requirements are included in a separate *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Chests* (ASTM F834-08). Subsequent to the end of the reporting period, on 5/13/09 the Commission approved the updated ASTM F963-08 standard and maintained the toy chest safety provisions from the prior version of the standard (ASTM F963-07e1):

Staff participated in a subcommittee meeting on 3/6/09 to discuss balloting activity and the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act. The subcommittee also heard reports on the activities of several work groups, including those for impaction hazards, magnets, projectiles, age range terminology, metric conversion, packaging film, ride-on toy stability, and the definition of toy seats. The subcommittee established a task group to address overheating and fire risks associated with rechargeable batteries used in toys, as requested by the CPSC staff.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee and working group activities.

Product ***Treestands**

Staff Contact Karen, Mike

Purpose To provide technical support for the development of new or revised standards for hunting treestands and associated equipment to reduce hazards to consumers.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Practice for Treestand Instructions* (ASTM F2123-09) was approved on 2/1/09. Revisions included requirements to incorporate a suspension relief device (to relieve harness tension on a hunter in the event of a fall).

Next Action Monitor ASTM subcommittee activities.

Product ***Window Guards**

Staff Contact Brown, Sarah

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Specification for Window Fall Prevention Devices with Emergency Escape (Egress) Release Mechanism* (ASTM F2090) and the ASTM *Standard Safety Specification for Window Fall Prevention Devices for Non-Emergency Escape (Egress) and Rescue (Ingress) Windows* (ASTM F2006) to include specifications for window opening control devices.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Safety Specification for Window Fall Prevention Devices for Non-Emergency Escape (Egress) and Rescue (Ingress) Windows* (ASTM F2006-08) was approved on 11/1/08. Revisions included the addition of a section for window opening control devices (a device that limits the window opening to less than four inches, with a release mechanism to further open the window, and an automatic reset when the window is fully closed), installation instructions, and performance tests. In addition, the scope for window fall prevention devices was expanded to include window fall prevention screens and fall prevention window guards.

 A revised ASTM *Standard Specification for Window Fall Prevention Devices with Emergency Escape (Egress) Release Mechanism* (ASTM F2090-08) was approved on 11/1/08. The revisions to the standard included the addition of a section for window opening control devices, installation instructions, and performance tests. In addition, the scope for window fall prevention devices was expanded to include window fall prevention screens and fall prevention window guards.

Next Action Project completed.

Product **Youth (Folding) Chairs**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Children's Folding Chairs* (ASTM F2613-07) to reduce the hazards associated with these products.

Activities CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 10/29/08 and 3/18/09. The Task Group on Static Loads proposed new requirements that were planned to be sent to the subcommittee for ballot. At the 3/18 meeting, the ballot results for a revision of the scissoring and locking device requirements were reviewed and were planned to be sent to the ASTM F15 Committee for balloting.

Next Action Participate in ASTM subcommittee meeting on 10/13-16/09.