



**UNITED STATES
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
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This document has been electronically
approved and signed.

Memorandum

Date: September 25, 2012

TO : The Commission

THROUGH: Todd A. Stevenson, Secretary
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and Reduction

FROM : Colin B. Church
Voluntary Standards Coordinator

SUBJECT : Voluntary Standards Activities FY 2012 Midyear Report

Attached is the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission staff's Voluntary Standards Activities FY 2012 Midyear Report (October 2011 – March 2012), which is forwarded for your information. If you have any questions, please call Colin Church at 301-504-7245.

ATTACHMENT:

Voluntary Standards Activities 10/1/11–3/31/12

SUMMARY

Twenty-six 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 October 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012. These safety standards address: stationary activity centers, bed rails, toddler beds, bedside sleepers, booster seats, candles (two standards), youth folding chairs, non-full-size cribs and play yards, drywall, garage door/gate operators, infant bedding and accessories, infant bouncers, infant slings, infant swings (two standards), infant tubs, infant walkers, children's jewelry, mattresses, home playground equipment (two standards), public playground equipment, shopping carts (two standards), and toys.

In total, from October 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012, CPSC staff provided technical support or monitored the development of 60 voluntary safety standards activities, which are described in the information that follows. During the reporting period, CPSC staff's involvement in voluntary standards focused on voluntary standards activities associated with implementing the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA) (Pub. L. 110-314). Voluntary standards development activities are handled primarily 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). The standards that are developed using the procedures of these groups provide safety provisions addressing potential hazards associated with consumer products found in homes, schools, and recreational areas.

VOLUNTARY STANDARDS AND THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2008 (CPSIA)

CPSC staff worked with ASTM and its subcommittees to fulfill certain requirements of the CPSIA. The Danny Keysar Child Product Safety Notification Act, Section 104 of the CPSIA, requires the Commission to promulgate consumer product safety standards for durable infant or toddler products. These standards are to be "substantially the same as" applicable voluntary standards or more stringent than these voluntary standards if the Commission determines that more stringent requirements will further reduce the risk of injury associated with the product.

A "durable infant or toddler product" is defined in the CPSIA as a durable product intended for use, or that may be reasonably expected to be used, by children under the age of five and includes, but is not limited to: walkers, bath seats, full-size and non-full-size cribs, toddler beds, high chairs, booster chairs, hook-on chairs, gates and other enclosures, play yards, stationary activity centers, strollers, swings, bassinets, and cradles. Before issuing such standards, the Commission, in consultation with representatives of consumer groups, juvenile product manufacturers, and independent child product engineers and experts, is required to examine and assess the effectiveness of any voluntary consumer product safety standard for the relevant durable infant and toddler product.

ASTM subcommittees develop and maintain voluntary safety standards for durable infant and toddler products, as well as other products. They are comprised of consumers, juvenile product manufacturers, independent child product engineers and experts, and may include other interested stakeholders. Selected subcommittees, with input from CPSC staff, seek to develop revised voluntary safety standards that are substantially the same as mandatory safety standards that might be proposed by CPSC staff to the Commission. Later, CPSC staff evaluates the revised ASTM standards and recommends that the Commission incorporate by reference the revised ASTM voluntary standards (together with more appropriate and more stringent safety provisions) into CPSC mandatory standards. Cooperative activities between CPSC staff and the ASTM voluntary standards subcommittees include: evaluating death and injury data, hazard patterns, and recent recalls to identify gaps or potential safety hazards not covered in existing ASTM safety standards. These activities also include developing new testing protocols and conducting laboratory tests to validate testing approaches.

THE “V-STAR” REPORT

Below is 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 on 3/31/12. Information from CPSC staff is developed by the Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction to prepare this report. The report is issued at the middle and end of the CPSC fiscal year, which runs from October 1 to September 30. Below is the *V-STAR FY 2012 Midyear Report (October 2011–March 2012)*.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COMMENT

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

ONE STOP FOR VOLUNTARY CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARDS

Maintenance of the CPSC website continues to make it easier for users to find more extensive information on voluntary consumer product safety standards. Through the CPSC website, users are able to access the computer search engines of the three major standards organizations (ANSI, ASTM International, and UL) that handled almost all of the voluntary safety standards in which the CPSC staff is involved.

VOLUNTARY STANDARDS TRACKING AND ACCESS REPORT

CPSC STAFF VOLUNTARY STANDARDS ACTIVITIES

**FY 2012 MIDYEAR REPORT
(October 2011–March 2012)**



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

This report was prepared by CPSC staff and 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 voluntary standards. A description of these activities from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012, 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's development.

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CPSC Staff Voluntary Standards Activities

FY 2012 Midyear Report

(October 2011–March 2012)

<i>Product</i>	Activity Centers, Stationary
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Edwards, Patty
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the ASTM International (ASTM) <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Stationary Activity Centers</i> (ASTM F2012) to strengthen its safety provisions.
<i>Activities</i>	A revised <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Stationary Activity Centers</i> (ASTM F2012-11) was approved on 12/01/11. At the 10/5/11 meeting, the subcommittee considered refinements to the test for products that rotate around a central post. A task group was formed to review incident data. A clarification for the seat tilt test was also proposed.
<i>Next Action</i>	Continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee and participate in the next subcommittee meeting on 4/19/12.
<i>Product</i>	Air Cleaners (Ozone Generation)
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Thomas, Treye
<i>Purpose</i>	To review and provide technical assistance for the implementation and revision of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) <i>Standard for Electrostatic Air Cleaners</i> (ANSI/UL 867 Section 37) to improve consumer safety.
<i>Activities</i>	Exposure to ozone can affect the respiratory system, causing adverse health effects, such as throat irritation, pulmonary edema, and reduced lung function, with symptoms including coughing and shortness of breath. Recently, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has updated criteria documents for the health effects of ozone and is proposing new, lower limits for ambient air concentrations. Staff has begun to review the new criteria documents and exposure limits for ozone. CPSC staff continued to participate in the UL working group maintaining the ANSI/UL <i>Standard for Electrostatic Air Cleaners</i> (ANSI/UL 867). Preparations were made for implementation in California of testing requirements found in the ANSI/UL 867 standard. The testing requirements limit the ozone emitted from indoor air cleaning devices. The implementation of the California testing requirements resulted in efforts to update the UL 867 standard. In 8/11, the state of California announced that changes were made in the certification program. The revisions were minor but were needed to improve the clarity of instructions and to modify the certification form to accommodate the addition of models to an existing

certified air cleaner model group. The state of California continued a review of in-duct air cleaning systems that may produce ozone and planned to determine how the existing standard may be used to regulate these devices.

Next Action

Monitor California implementation of the ANSI/UL 867 standard testing requirements and make recommendations for additional revisions to the UL standard, as appropriate. Staff will also monitor the California review of in-duct air cleaning systems.

Product

Amusement Rides (Portable)

Staff Contact

Caton, Tom

Purpose

To monitor and provide technical support to the development of new and revised standards developed and maintained by the ASTM F24 Committee on Amusement Rides and Devices.

Activities

The scope of ASTM F24 activities include: harmonizing terminology, building code requirements, latch requirements for child patrons, patron height measurement methods, special rides, and fencing requirements. CPSC staff reviewed ballots on standard practices for amusement ride terminology, design, manufacture, railways, water-related rides and devices, and hydraulic systems. A quality assurance standard was being combined into a design of amusement rides and devices standard. The ASTM F24 Committee met in 10/11.

Next Action

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 10/18–20/12. CPSC staff will continue to monitor ASTM F24 standard development activities and will make recommendations for revisions in the ASTM F24 standards, as appropriate.

Product

Bassinets and Cradles

Staff Contact

Edwards, Patty

Purpose

To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bassinets and Cradles* (ASTM F2194) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities

At the 10/3/11 meeting, the subcommittee explained that the standard was not published because of some outstanding items that needed to be addressed. CPSC staff reviewed its recommendations for improving the standard. At the 12/6/11 meeting, the subcommittee discussed a draft with revisions to the scope, reference documents, terminology, performance requirements, side heights, surface flatness, rock/swing angle, fabric sided testing, replacement aftermarket mattresses and warnings. At the 1/23/12 meeting, the subcommittee refined the definitions based on ballot results. Each ballot item was reviewed and minor changes made for consistency.

The chair proposed another version of the flatness test that involves using a mean of three measurements of the surface rather than a single measurement.

Next Action Staff will participate in the next ASTM subcommittee meeting on 4/16/12. At that time, staff will discuss progress toward a proposed rule for bassinets, including requirements to address mattress flatness, warnings, and rock-swing resting angles.

Product **Bath Seats**

Staff Contact Edwards, 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 incidents and the hazards associated with climbing out of infant bath seats.

Activities At the 10/4/11 subcommittee meeting, it was noted that no new incidents were reported since the last meeting, and no new business was presented. The meeting adjourned within minutes.

Next Action Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee and attend the next ASTM subcommittee meeting when it is scheduled.

Product **Batteries, Button Cell**

Staff Contact Lee, Doug

Purpose To provide technical support to the development and revision of battery safety standards and support the development of certification programs for batteries to ensure safe and reliable use. Hazards associated with batteries and battery chargers include: overheating, fire, thermal burns, exposure to electrolytes, explosions, ingestion, and electrical shock from chargers.

Activities CPSC staff monitored and participated in many standards activities including those of: (1) the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE): *Standard for Rechargeable Batteries for Mobile Telephones* (IEEE 1725) and *Standard for Rechargeable Batteries for Multi-cell Computing* (IEEE 1625); (2) Underwriters Laboratories Inc. *Standard for Safety for Lithium Batteries* (UL 1642); (3) American National Standards Institute/National Electrical Manufacturers Association (ANSI/NEMA) *Safety Standards for Primary, Secondary and Lithium Batteries* (ANSI/NEMA C18); (4) ASTM International *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety* (ASTM F963); (5) UL *Standard for Household and Commercial Batteries* (UL 2054) and (6) the *Standard for Audio, Video, and Similar Electronic Apparatus—Safety Requirements* (UL 60065).

As part of CPSIA Section 106 activities, CPSC staff worked with industry to

address battery hazards in toys and to revise the ASTM F963 toy standard. Staff participated in ASTM working group meetings and teleconferences on 2/3/12 and 3/5/12, to refine further draft requirements for high energy batteries (fire), sealed compartments (explosion), and button cells (ingestion). Staff worked with task groups to revise draft requirements for balloting.

CPSC staff continued to participate in ANSI/NEMA C18 meetings on 10/5–6/11 and 2/1–2/12). These meetings focused on fire and ingestion hazards, potential requirements, and certification of batteries used in toys.

On 1/16/12, staff provided comments to the UL 60065 Standard Technical Panel (STP) on proposed requirements for accessibility of button cells used in audio and video equipment remotes.

Next Action

Continue to participate in ASTM task groups to revise requirements to address hazards with batteries in toys. Work with UL, the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA), and other standards groups to draft new ingestion hazard requirements for button cell batteries.

Product

Bed Rails

Staff Contact

Edwards, Patty

Purpose

To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Portable Bed Rails* (ASTM F2085) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities

A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Portable Bed Rails* (ASTM F2085-12) was approved on 1/1/12. At the 10/5/11 meeting, the subcommittee considered the use of the terms “infant” versus “children” and “adult bed” versus “twin bed” on warning labels. The section addressing improper assembly was reviewed, including the definitions of “consumer assembly” and “captive hardware.” “Captive hardware” was described to be comprised of parts that cannot be separated from their respective location on the product. These are parts used to fasten two or more parts and cannot be lost as they are permanently affixed. The definitions and requirements for “foam” and “inflatable bed rails” were also debated, but no additional requirements were proposed. At the 12/7/11 meeting, the subcommittee reviewed the negative votes received on the last ballot, which had not yet closed. The definitions of “inflatable bed rails” garnered negative votes because such products did not seem to fit within the scope of the standard. At the 1/25/12 meeting, the subcommittee reviewed refinements of warning language and made some editorial refinements to various sections. On 2/22/12, the Commission voted to adopt a final rule for bed rails, which incorporated the ASTM F2085-12 standard by reference.

Next Action

Participate in the next ASTM subcommittee meeting on 4/18/12. Staff will continue to provide incident reports and technical assistance to the subcommittee.

<i>Product</i>	Beds, Bunk
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Smith, Tim
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bunk Beds</i> (ASTM F1427), as necessary, to address hazards associated with bunk beds.
<i>Activities</i>	On 10/21/11, ASTM issued a ballot ending 11/21/11. The ballot contained revisions to the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bunk Beds</i> (ASTM F1427). The draft revised standard intended to address head and neck entrapment in the spaces created by side structures, including ladders on bunk beds. CPSC staff participated in a virtual ASTM F15.30 bunk bed subcommittee meeting on 1/18/12 to discuss the negative votes and other comments received on the ballot. The subcommittee identified two issues raised in the negative votes and other comments as being persuasive and requiring two revisions to the standard. The subcommittee agreed on the required revisions and, at the conclusion of the meeting, voted to ballot the proposed revisions to the standard. On 3/9/12, ASTM issued a ballot that contained the new revisions to ASTM F1427 with a closing date of 4/8/12.
<i>Next Action</i>	Participate in the next ASTM bunk bed subcommittee meeting scheduled for 4/17/12.
<i>Product</i>	Beds, Toddler
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Edwards, Patty
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toddler Beds</i> (ASTM F1821) to include corner post safety requirements and to update the standard's warning language.
<i>Activities</i>	A revised ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toddler Beds</i> (ASTM F1821-11b) was approved on 12/15/11. At the 10/5/11 meeting, the subcommittee considered the warnings labels in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and the ASTM standard, which conflict with regard to the statement intended to limit use for children younger than 15 months old. The CFR allows convertible cribs to exclude this label, but the ASTM standard requires it. The subcommittee also pointed out that the standard requires a 4-inch mattress, and this was adopted in the CFR. The reason for this restriction seems unrelated to safety, but the restriction was due to how the standard developed during a time when there were no mattresses thinner than 4 inches. The standard also requires a phone number on every product, and this requirement is not consistent with other standards. These issues were sent to a task group for resolution. The ASTM F1821-11b version of the standard was just published by the time of the 1/24/12 meeting. That version changed the warnings to be addressed, rather than provide exact wording because of the recent adoption of the federal standard, which would have required two similar warnings about the same hazard. The entrapment hazard warning requires a

maximum mattress thickness, but CPSC human factors staff was not sure it was necessary. The subcommittee felt it was important enough to send it back to the task group for consideration. Where to place the mattress thickness message, and whether it is important enough to warrant a warning about a fall hazard were discussed. How to define a guardrail also was considered.

Next Action Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee and participate in a subcommittee meeting on 4/18/12.

Product **Bedside Sleepers**

Staff Contact Lee, Doug

Purpose To develop a new ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bedside Sleepers* to address various hazards associated with these products.

Activities A new ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bedside Sleepers* (ASTM F2906-11) was approved on 10/15/11, and published in 12/11. CPSC staff participated in numerous ASTM subcommittee meetings and conference calls to provide technical support to the development of this standard. The subcommittee discussed the scope of the standard, testing, and side height requirements. Some members contended that bedside sleepers, by definition, have one side that is lower than the others, and they suggested that all sides of the product should be addressed by the standard. Staff participated in a task group to develop a response to this issue for a ballot vote and to develop testing requirements. Staff also participated in a task group to refine the warning and instruction language addressing entrapment and suffocation. On 10/3/11, staff participated in the ASTM subcommittee meeting to finalize the draft standard. Staff participated in an ASTM subcommittee meeting on 1/23/12, recommending revisions to the standard based on new revisions to the bassinet standard. In 2/12, a ballot was issued to make the bassinet requirements the fundamental requirements for a separate but different voluntary standard on bedside sleepers.

Next Action Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee task groups and participate in the ASTM subcommittee meeting on 4/17/12.

Product **Bicycles**

Staff Contact Amodeo, Vincent

Purpose To develop new or revised ASTM safety standards to reduce or eliminate hazards associated with bicycles and bicycle components.

Activities Staff monitored ASTM subcommittee activity, but did not attend any meetings. No ballots for new or revised standards occurred during this period.

<i>Next Action</i>	Staff will participate in the ASTM subcommittee meeting in 5/12.
<i>Product</i>	Blind Cords
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Balci-Sinha, Rana
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/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 proposed revision of the ANSI/WCMA A100.1 <i>National Standard for Safety of Corded Window Covering Products</i> was balloted with a due date of 2/10/12. CPSC staff sent a letter with comments to the association. The letter primarily addressed the remaining risks associated with operating cords and loop cords.
<i>Next Action</i>	Participate in the next WCMA steering committee meeting when scheduled.
<i>Product</i>	Booster Seats
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Edwards, Patty
<i>Purpose</i>	To assist in the revision of the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Booster Seats</i> (ASTM F2640) to reduce hazards associated with booster seats.
<i>Activities</i>	A revised ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Booster Seats</i> (ASTM F2640-11a) was approved on 10/1/11. This new version of the standard includes a static load test and additional revisions to the dynamic seat test. At the 10/4/11 meeting, the subcommittee considered the latest incident data and the size of the weight used in testing.
<i>Next Action</i>	Staff will participate in an ASTM subcommittee meeting on 4/16/12.
<i>Product</i>	Candles
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Ayers, Scott
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the ASTM <i>Standard Specification for Fire Safety for Candles</i> (ASTM F2417) and ASTM <i>Standard Specification for Fire Safety for Candle Accessories</i> (ASTM F2601) to strengthen their safety provisions.
<i>Activities</i>	A revised <i>Standard Specification for Fire Safety for Candles</i> (ASTM F2417) was approved 10/1/11, and a revised <i>Standard Specification for Fire Safety for Candle Accessories</i> (ASTM F2601) was approved 3/1/12. Updates for the <i>Standard Specification for Fire Safety for Candles</i> (ASTM F2417) included some additions

and revisions to standardize the language in the scope statement, as well as the addition of the discussion section under secondary ignition to describe wick curling. The requirements for tea light candles also were expanded to include all filled candles. Updates to the *Standard Specification for Fire Safety for Candle Accessories* (ASTM F2601) included the addition of a discussion section under candle burner, distinguishing a “candle follower” from a “candle burner.” A candle follower is a ring/cap around the top of the candle, which is basically used in the religious candle industry to make the candle burn more evenly without dripping. A candle burner is a candle holder that has an enclosed, but vented, area in which to put a candle, with the candle providing a source of heat, or light, or both. CPSC staff participated in the committee discussions that led to each document’s revision.

Next Action

Participate in the ASTM subcommittee meetings scheduled during the National Candle Association meeting 4/16–19/12, as well as monitor and participate in the monthly teleconferences, as appropriate.

Product

Chairs, High

Staff Contact

Edwards, 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

At the 10/4/11 meeting, the subcommittee considered a clarification to the rationale for the crotch restraint requirements, which explains that the restraint system needs to be affixed prior to shipping and details the reasons for this requirement. The tray release task group reported no progress. The task group that was revising the standard to parallel the format of other standards submitted a handout with a comparison of the edits needed to update the standard. Some sections needed to be moved within the standard, but few substantive changes were required to match the format of other standards. These edits were planned for future balloting.

The task group evaluating arm entrapment between the seat and the tray reported no progress, and a new task group chairman was assigned. A revision to the requirements for upholstery labels was planned for future balloting. Minor revisions to figures and text in several sections also needed to be added to the standard in the next revision. The tray drop performance task group evaluating whether an exception could be made for chairs with restraints that stay in place when the chair is removed, had no progress to report, and a new task group chairman was assigned. The task group evaluating the attachment issue with accessories had no progress to report. A company had removed an accessory that was required to make the high chair pass the standard and sold it separately. This is an enforcement problem that will be referred to the Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association (JPMA) certification committee, and the task group will continue to consider how to address it in the standard. The restraint task group evaluating requirements for shoulder straps had no progress to report, and a new chairman was assigned. The issue of tracking labels required by the CPSIA, which might conflict with the voluntary

standard, was noted for future action. Also noted for future review were the issues of screws falling out and protrusions. A review of incident data yielded a list of possible hazards, including falls, loose screws, and protrusions, to include in safety provisions of the voluntary standard. These changes could be made prior to the CPSIA's section 104 adoption of this standard as a mandatory rule. The task group asked CPSC staff for an update on these issues.

Next Action Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee and participate in the next ASTM subcommittee meeting on 4/19/12.

Product **Chairs, Youth (Folding)**

Staff Contact Edwards, Patty

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

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Children's Folding Chairs* (ASTM F2613-11) was approved on 10/15/11. At the 10/5/11 meeting, the subcommittee considered the results of the latest ballots. These ballots covered stability tests and the scope of the standard being applied to residential use chairs only. Only residential chairs were considered because the Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturer's Association (BIFMA) has a standard for institutional chairs. It was reported that there is a standard for outdoor chairs, which has weathering conditioning; aspects of that standard might need to be incorporated within this standard.

Next Action Staff will participate in the next subcommittee meeting on 4/16/12.

Product **Changing Tables**

Staff Contact Edwards, Patty

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Product Safety Specification for Baby Changing Tables for Domestic Use* (ASTM F2388) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities On 10/4/11, the subcommittee discussed revisions to clarify the test methods for stability and other labeling issues. The task group for accessory changing tables intended for spanning the sides of a full-size crib reported a proposal for testing such units to ensure that they do not detach from the sides of the crib if a child were left in the crib with the changing table on top of the crib. A gap left between the edges of the accessory changing table and the crib side cannot be allowed because of strangulation hazards.

<i>Next Action</i>	Staff will participate in the next subcommittee meeting on 4/16/12.
<i>Product</i>	Child-Resistant Packaging (CRP)
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Rea, Gregory
<i>Purpose</i>	To monitor activities of the ASTM Subcommittee D10.32 on Consumer, Pharmaceutical, Child-Resistant and Medical Packaging and provide the subcommittee with technical support, including updates on any applicable CPSC relevant activities.
<i>Activities</i>	Approval was given to publish a ballot adding a Type XIII-A semi rigid blister package to the ASTM <i>Standard Classification of Child-Resistant Packages</i> (D3475-11). The ballot results for the proposed new ASTM standard, <i>Standard Test Method for Torque Retention Using Automated Equipment</i> , were reviewed at the ASTM D10.32 subcommittee meeting on 3/27/12. Proposals for clarifying editorial changes to the ASTM D4774-11 standard also were discussed.
<i>Next Action</i>	CPSC staff will update the subcommittee on the status of the Lamp Oil and Torch Fuel packaging petition (CPSC Petition PP 11-01) at the subcommittee's next meeting.
<i>Product</i>	Cribs (Commercial)
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Edwards, Patty
<i>Purpose</i>	To develop safety requirements for a new ASTM safety standard for cribs in commercial settings, such as hotels and day care centers.
<i>Activities</i>	At the 10/3/11 meeting, the subcommittee discussed the exceptions for evacuation cribs and whether to include play yards in the scope. The subcommittee also considered whether a requirement for moveable sides was warranted. Task groups were formed to explore possible proposals further. At the 1/23/12 meeting, the subcommittee discussed negative votes on the ballot, which was still open at the time of the meeting. A suggested change was considered editorial, and it was made with the negative vote withdrawn. The ballot contained an incorrect reference to a standard, which will create multiple negative votes that will need to be handled later. Under old business, the movable sides test was reconsidered, and it was decided to leave it as written. The mesh-sided products task group did not make any progress after the last meeting.
<i>Next Action</i>	CPSC staff will participate and continue to provide technical assistance at the 4/17/12 meeting.

Product **Cribs (Full-Size)**

Staff Contact Edwards, 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 On 10/3/11, the subcommittee formed a task group to review how to interpret the handhold over toehold regulation, which deals with attempts by children to climb out of cribs. The subcommittee also requested clarification of whether the CPSIA requirements apply to the date of manufacture or the date of sale. The requirements apply to the date of sale.

Next Action Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee and participate in the next meeting on 4/17/12.

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

Staff Contact Edwards, 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 A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Non-Full-Size Baby Cribs/Play Yards* (ASTM F406-12) was approved on 1/15/12. At the meeting on 10/3/11, the subcommittee discussed definitions of drop gates with telescoping sides and recent incidents. Task groups were formed to examine how to address entrapment in play yard pockets and improper assembly of bassinet attachments.

Next Action CPSC staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee, participate in task group activities, and participate in the subcommittee meeting on 4/17/12.

Product **Drywall**

Staff Contact Khanna, Rik

Purpose To establish new requirements in appropriate drywall standards to reduce sulfur gas emissions that can cause corrosion and to establish new requirements for tracing drywall.

Activities An ASTM *Standard Specification for Sampling, Inspection, Rejection, Certification, Packaging, Marking, Shipping, Handling, and Storage of Gypsum Panel Products* (ASTM C1264-11) was approved on 11/1/11. The latest version of the standard includes newly approved requirements for gypsum board labeling.

The task group working on identifying markers for sulfides met on 11/15/11, at which time there was a discussion regarding the test method for gas analysis of head space above gypsum board samples. The gases discussed for identification were hydrogen sulfide, carbonyl sulfide, and carbon disulfide.

Next Action

Task group members will follow-up with analytical staff at a manufacturer regarding test methods. ASTM staff will send a copy of the ASTM Test Method D5504-08 to the task group chair, and the task group will work on modifying the method. CPSC staff will provide data to the task group, as appropriate. Staff will participate in the next task group meeting in 5/12.

Product

Fuel Tanks (Leakage)

Staff Contact

Lim, Han

Purpose

To revise the ANSI/Outdoor Power Equipment Industry (OPEI) *Standard for Small Off-Road Ground-Supported Outdoor Power Equipment Gasoline Fuel Systems Performance Specifications and Test Procedures* (ANSI/OPEI B71.10-2008), as appropriate, to improve safety.

Activities

This standard addresses fire hazards arising from fuel leakage from fuel tanks and fuel lines associated with gasoline-driven ground supported outdoor power equipment with engine displacements under 1 liter, such as walk-behind lawn mowers, ride-on mowers, snow throwers, snow blowers, and rototillers. A CPSC staff representative maintained a nonvoting membership on the ANSI canvass list, whose members review draft safety standards for these products. There was a call for comments for the next revision of the ANSI/OPEI B71.10-201X standard. CPSC staff drafted a letter to OPEI, which is currently under review and in the CPSC clearance process. In the letter, staff commented on several issues that are currently not addressed in the standard. These issues include the following: (a) the scope of the standard to include handheld equipment such as leaf blowers, (b) inclusion of a vibration/bending moment endurance test, (c) inclusion of an impact resistance test, (d) inclusion of a high and low temperature cyclic test, and (e) inclusion of a leak test on fuel lines/hose connections.

Next Action

Staff will send the letter to OPEI after it has been cleared. Staff will continue to monitor activities related to the OPEI B71.10-201X8 standard, and if appropriate, staff will provide technical support to the development of revisions to the standard.

Product

Garage Door/Gate Operators

Staff Contact

Murphy, John

Purpose

To revise the UL *Standard for Safety for Door, Drapery, Gate, Louver, and Window Operators and Systems* (UL 325) to reduce hazards associated with

entrapment under residential garage doors, which can result in death.

Activities A revised UL *Standard for Safety for Door, Drapery, Gate, Louver, and Window Operators and Systems* (UL 325-12) was approved on 1/12/12. The revised standard includes changes for both electric eyes and door edge sensors that are used as primary and secondary sensors on gate operators. A comment period for a revised UL 325 standard started on 3/2/12 and will close on 4/2/12.

Next Action Staff plans to provide comments on any proposed revision of the standard, as appropriate.

Product **Gasoline Containers**

Staff Contact Murphy, John

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Specification for Determination of Child-Resistance of Portable Fuel Containers for Consumer Use* (ASTM F2517-09) and the ASTM *Standard Specification for Portable Gasoline Containers for Consumer Use* (F852-08) to eliminate or reduce the fire and poisoning hazards associated with these products.

Activities There were no ballots for new or revised standards during the reporting period.

Next Action The task group on flame arrestors will propose a second phase of testing at the next conference call meeting, the date of which is to be announced.

Product **Generators (Portable)**

Staff Contact Buyer, Janet

Purpose To develop a national consensus safety standard to reduce carbon monoxide (CO) deaths and serious injuries associated with portable generators.

Activities Prior to the reporting period, a revised first edition of the UL *Standard for Portable Engine Generator Assemblies* (UL 2201) was issued on 2/28/11. An attempt by UL failed to get the consensus necessary to make this UL standard a national consensus standard using procedures of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The UL standard did not address carbon monoxide poisoning, which CPSC staff believes is the most serious hazard associated with portable generators. CPSC staff continued to fund research to find a way to reduce significantly carbon monoxide poisonings. UL awaited the results of the CPSC-funded research.

On 12/2/11, the Portable Generator Manufacturers Association (PGMA) was accredited by ANSI as a standards developer for portable gas generators. CPSC staff expressed concern that there were two standards development organizations accredited by ANSI (UL and PGMA) developing standards for the same product.

Staff requested that UL and PGMA work together to develop portable generator safety standards.

Next Action Staff will continue to focus on reducing CO poisoning associated with portable generators. Staff will monitor/participate in activities to develop increased portable generator safety, especially activities related to CO poisoning reduction. It plans to provide technical support to the further development of the UL 2201 safety standard, and if appropriate, staff will monitor/participate in ANSI/PGMA portable generator standards activities.

Product **Helmets (Recreational)**

Staff Contact Hall, Ian

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

Activities The subcommittee responsible for the ASTM *Standard Test Methods for Equipment and Procedures Used in Evaluating the Performance Characteristics of Protective Headgear* (ASTM F1446-11a) was in the process of revising the strap retention test and investigating a new visor test. The subcommittee was also in the process of revising the ASTM *Standard Specification for Headforms* (ASTM F2220-11) by including an additional headform. The subcommittee balloted an update to the standard, which, if approved, would require the use of variable-mass headforms in the ASTM *Standard Specification for Helmets Used in Recreational Bicycling or Roller Skating* (ASTM F1447-06). Various recreational helmet standards were up for revision or reaffirmation.

Next Action CPSC staff will monitor the proposed revisions to the ASTM F1446 headgear test method standard. In addition, staff will participate in the next ASTM subcommittee meeting on 5/8–10/12 and will continue to provide technical support for updating the ASTM F1446-11a, ASTM F1447-06, and ASTM F2220-11 standards.

Product **Inclined Sleep Products (Infant Hammocks)**

Staff Contact Edwards, Patty

Purpose To develop a new ASTM safety standard and test methods for products intended to provide inclined sleeping surfaces for infants.

Activities On 10/4/11, the task group for restraint systems presented a series of proposals to ensure that products contain a child in a safe manner. For testing the side heights, the task group proposed placing a flexible weight in the seat and measuring up from the seat bight. They also proposed using the leg opening sphere from soft infant carriers to test containment by raising the seat to see if the sphere rolls out. These tests would be for all products, whether they had a restraint or did not. Some

concerns about having conforming sides were expressed, but the draft standard currently does not address such features. Some concerns were expressed about the health aspects of being restrained all night. Additional types of products were considered for inclusion in the scope of the draft, and a task group was formed to consider the market. A decision was made to allow restraints as an option but to limit restraints to three points only. Concerns about the allowable angles potentially allowing inappropriate head positions were also delegated to a task group for further discussion.

The subcommittee also looked at a proposal for measuring the tilt angles of a sleeping surface. At the 1/23/12 subcommittee meeting, a firm showed an inclined sleeper for inclusion in the scope of the standard. No objections to inclusion were voiced, but restrictions on containment and warnings were discussed, even though such products are intended only for use on the floor. Such products will need to have a maximum 3-inch height at the seat bight and side containments to prevent occupants from falling out. The scope of the standard was debated. The main issue was how to differentiate “rigid surface products” and “non-rigid surface products.” Also, the intention was to include hammocks in the scope. The subcommittee decided to exclude certain wording because it was not adding anything to the scope, and all of the products need to be covered. References to stand-alone products in the list of exclusions were removed because they were misleading.

The definition of “incline sleep product” was modified to say that they “may have adjustments” rather than imply that they “must have” adjustments. Methods for measuring side containment were proposed and demonstrated using a wing-shaped wooden probe inserted on the infant weight gauge. If the wings of the probe contact the seat surface before meeting the edges of the seating surface, then the unit fails; this demonstrates that it does not have enough side containment features to prevent rolling or sliding sideways. The sample product shown seemed to fail this proposed test, but it appeared to prevent sliding sideways by a constricting formation of the sides at the waist of the infant, which stymies sliding as well as restricts shoulders. The test might need to test waist- or shoulder-level placements. An alternative proposal to measure from reference points on the weight gauge was discussed; but the subcommittee chairman admitted that they have a gauge that they use internally within their company that does this, but it is very complicated and introduces many sources of error in measuring. An inclined play yard attachment was mentioned as an exception to products that need a side-to-side containment system because occupants of that bassinet-like unit have a long runway area at the foot of the unit that allows occupants’ feet and legs to slide away from the incline.

The proposal for side containment generated some questions about the low-to-the-ground products that were agreed needed an exclusion from the side height requirement. The restraints task group decided that it would allow three-point restraints, but not five-point systems. Crotch restraints are required. A firm showed a crotch restraint that could be removed, and the subcommittee strongly urged them to not make this feature. The task group will consider five-degree bassinet requirement and other requirements that might need to be matched. The infant

weight gauge was modified recently based on the 6-month-old CAMI dummy and was briefly reviewed.

Next Action

The task group chairman will present a proposal at the next meeting. CPSC staff will monitor the development of this draft standard and participate in an ASTM subcommittee meeting on 4/17/12.

Product

Infant Bedding and Accessories

Staff Contact

Edwards, Patty

Purpose

To provide technical support to the ASTM F15.19 Subcommittee on Infant Bedding, which has responsibility for maintaining and revising the *ASTM Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Infant Bedding and Related Accessories* (ASTM F1917) to make these products safer.

Activities

The revised *ASTM Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Bedding and Related Accessories* (ASTM F1917-11) was approved on 12/1/11. At the 10/6/11 meeting, the subcommittee considered task group proposals to send to ballot, covering bumper pad tie testing; bumper warnings for falls, suffocation, and strangulation; the definition of “supported vinyl,” whether vinyl requirements should be limited to accessible parts; and revisions to bring the entire standard into alignment with common ASTM style. Under new business, the subcommittee considered that many crib retailers used improper bumpers in their displays at the last ABC Kids Expo trade show. A small task group was formed to discuss this problem and how to address it. A member asked to discuss carbon dioxide “pooling” in cribs, claiming that carbon dioxide exposure could be a factor in fatalities associated with SIDS. The member wanted to develop a new performance requirement to create airflow to reduce carbon dioxide amounts. The subcommittee was willing to consider any new information in the future and asked for testing proposals.

A task group proposed a performance test for limiting the thickness of bumpers involving a test fixture with two sides held apart at a standard width between which the bumper must pass without getting caught in the fixture. Some concerns were expressed about the repeatability of the test within different laboratories. Pre-conditioning factors were also discussed. At the 1/24/12 meeting, ballot results were reviewed. The ballot on a warning against sagging bumpers received no negative votes. The chairman described the rationale for the test method to limit bumper thickness. The task group found the tallest bumper in the world (about 14 inches tall) and made a 2-inch limit based on a benchmark of industry trends. The test was intended to be simple to perform and repeatable. The chairman also explained the evolution of industry trends regarding the number of pieces in a bumper set. They used to make single pieces that wrap around the crib, but now the vast majority of the industry makes a set with four separate panels. They also are removing bumpers from crib sets, so that consumers must purchase them separately from sheets and curtains. Test labs were concerned that the test for bumper thickness needed a time

limit and agreed to 30 seconds.

Negatives to the ballot were received from consumer advocates concerned that the new requirements do not address the inherent hazards associated with bumpers. Some felt that more hazards, such as those associated with soft bedding or improper installation, should also be addressed. The availability of the research findings of various JPMA-funded studies was questioned, and JPMA agreed to make them available for review. CPSC staff suggested that a task group be formed to address requirements for instructional materials in the standard and agreed to participate. The negatives were found to be nonpersuasive in order to keep the standard's development moving forward.

Next Action Staff will continue to provide technical assistance and incident data to the subcommittee and participate in a subcommittee meeting on 4/19/12.

Product **Infant Bouncers**

Staff Contact Edwards, Patty

Purpose To revise the *ASTM Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Bouncer Seats* (ASTM F2167) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities The revised *ASTM Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Bouncer Seats* (ASTM F2167-12) was approved on 3/1/12. At the 10/7/11 meeting, the subcommittee reviewed the details of the static stability test and considered the angles for the test from 12 to 20 degrees. Discussion of the optimum angle for seat backs considered car seats and other references. The task group for battery compartments proposed to add marking requirements similar to the toy standard. The scope of the standard was widened to include reclined seats. The toy bar task group reported that the new provision is ready for publication, but a few edits were suggested to clarify the testing terminology referring to the center axis of the product. A task group will consider a minimum and maximum weight for the test fixture to ensure that the test is consistent across laboratories. Under new business, CPSC staff suggested examining rocker seats due to incidents associated with rockers. JPMA planned to contact the firms not present and invite them to participate.

Next Action Participate in the ASTM subcommittee meeting on 4/18/12.

Product **Infant Carriers (Frame)**

Staff Contact Edwards, Patty

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

<i>Activities</i>	The ASTM subcommittee maintaining and revising this standard was inactive during the reporting period. This standard remains a potential activity for staff due to its association with other standards that will soon be incorporated by reference into rules under the Danny Keysar Child Product Safety Notification Act, Section 104 of the CPSIA.
<i>Next Action</i>	Staff will participate in ASTM subcommittee meetings, when scheduled.
<i>Product</i>	Infant Carriers (Hand-Held)
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Edwards, Patty
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Hand-Held Infant Carriers</i> (ASTM F2050) to reduce the risk of injuries to occupants.
<i>Activities</i>	At the 10/7/11 meeting, the subcommittee considered a proposal to prevent the use of restraints in certain products. Another proposal refined the carry handle auto-locking test method. CPSC staff showed test results of the impact weight handle durability test method which involves dropping a weight down a rod affixed to the foot end of the unit to stress the handle. A proposed hub attachment integrity test was considered. The task group examining the strangulation incidents associated with the chest clip proposed some warnings. CPSC staff was requested to make a list of features for a graphic. At the 1/24/12 meeting, the subcommittee discussed the results of the ballot prohibiting a restraint on a flat carrier. The carry handle auto-lock test was reviewed. The warning about restraint use needed some revisions and the pictogram also was reviewed.
<i>Next Action</i>	Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee, participate on task groups, and attend the next subcommittee meeting on 4/19/12.
<i>Product</i>	Infant Carriers (Soft)
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Edwards, Patty
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Soft Infant Carriers</i> (ASTM F2236) to strengthen its safety provisions.
<i>Activities</i>	On 1/24/12, the subcommittee reviewed proposals for editing changes to the standard. The subcommittee discussed expanding the scope of the standard to include heavier occupants, and the concern of slumping down with chin-to-chest was expressed by CPSC staff. The development of a performance test to address this potential hazard seemed difficult. Staff suggested a few ideas for a test, but they were not considered realistic. Many unknowns existed in the data. The group agreed

that instructions and warnings are appropriate for this kind of potential hazard, which they term an “unreasonable foreseeable misuse.”

Next Action CPSC staff will participate in the next subcommittee meeting on 4/18/12.

Product **Infant Gates**

Staff Contact Edwards, Patty

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

Activities At the 10/6/11 meeting, the subcommittee reviewed the most recent incident data from the CPSC staff and discussed incidents related to slat strength. The task group for slat testing planned to address this hazard. The subcommittee wanted to know whether these latest incidents were defective products that were recalled or whether they were products that passed the current standard. They asked CPSC staff for the same list of incidents with encoded manufacturer/model information and whether the gates involved were included in recalls. A proposed test for hinge integrity was discussed, and other concerns were assigned to the task group for consideration. The configuration and definition of the “uppermost edge” was considered for clarification because differences in interpreting the test method lead to failures at the corners of gates when using the head form probe. Much discussion centered on whether the failures were actually hazards. A test laboratory showed many photos of failing products that had previously been JPMA certified. No resolution was found, and no proposals were made. The task group decided to continue to examine the issue. The task group examining the definition of the “retail package” determined that shipping boxes are not retail packaging, but that hang tags are retail packaging. Tags or labels on or near the product in the store are not packaging. This needed clarification. Staff did not find any real patterns in the data and told the chairman of the subcommittee that a broad spectrum of firms was shown in the data.

Next Action Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee and participate in the subcommittee meeting on 04/19/12.

Product **Infant Sling Carriers (Infant Slings)**

Staff Contact Edwards, Patty

Purpose To develop a new *ASTM Consumer Safety Specification for Sling Carriers* (ASTM F2907) to address suffocation and fall hazards associated with sling carriers.

Activities A new *ASTM Consumer Safety Specification for Sling Carriers* (ASTM F2907-12) was approved on 1/1/12. At a 10/7/11 meeting, ballot results from the F15 Committee ballot, which closed on 09/21/11, were discussed by the subcommittee

developing the standard. Concerns included a desire to address more fully the suffocation risks associated with the misuse of slings, the appropriate flammability test, and the need for specifying a minimum weight for static testing. These issues were found not persuasive because they are beyond the current language to move the existing standard forward; therefore, these issues will be placed on future agendas. Comments on the last ballot were also addressed and editorial changes were made. It was decided that in future revisions, the manufacturer's recommended maximum and minimum weights will need to be specified. More warnings also were suggested. Incident data was reviewed. One commenter suggested having an informative section in the standard to educate the reader about the different types of suffocation hazards. This suggestion drew mixed reactions and was put aside.

Next Action Staff will participate in an ASTM subcommittee meeting on 4/18/12.

Product **Infant Swings**

Staff Contact Edwards, 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 F2088-2011b) was approved on 10/1/11. A revised *ASTM Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Swings* (ASTM F2088-12) was approved on 2/1/12. At the 10/6/11 meeting, the subcommittee considered the results of the latest ballot that passed. A letter sent by CPSC staff that outlined potential areas for improvement of the standard was also discussed. The chair proposed revisions for each item in staff's letter, and the subcommittee made suggestions to improve the proposals. Topics included the definitions of a "leg opening" and a "soft-filled toy/stuffed toy"; test requirements to ensure that rigid components of toy mobiles stay attached; clarification of the method for testing seat back angles; the stability test; the structural integrity test; and a requirement for batteries not to overheat if the motor stalls. The "leg opening" definition seemed unnecessary to the subcommittee because the current wording has been used in the high chair standard for many years without problems. The definition of a "soft-filled toy" was copied directly from the ASTM F 963 toy standard. The subcommittee's goal was to move toward adopting these new provisions as soon as possible. At the 1/24/12 meeting, the subcommittee discussed seat back angles and how to measure them. The best method for submitting comments on the CPSC's rulemaking was also discussed.

Next Action Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee and participate in an ASTM subcommittee meeting on 4/20/12.

<i>Product</i>	Infant Tubs
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Edwards, Patty
<i>Purpose</i>	To develop a revised ASTM <i>Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Bath Tubs</i> (ASTM F2670) to address the drowning hazard associated with infant tubs.
<i>Activities</i>	A revised ASTM <i>Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Bath Tubs</i> (ASTM F2670-11a) was approved on 11/1/11. The revised standard includes a clarification to the stability test methods for smooth surfaces. At the 10/4/11 meeting, the subcommittee considered the incidents associated with buckets in association with the pod-type tubs. No incidents are on record involving pod-type tubs. How to define a “retail package” for labeling rules also was discussed.
<i>Next Action</i>	Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee and participate in a subcommittee meeting on 4/17/12.
<i>Product</i>	Infant Walkers
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Edwards, Patty
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Infant Walkers</i> (ASTM F977) to strengthen its safety provisions.
<i>Activities</i>	A revised ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Infant Walkers</i> (ASTM F977-11b) was approved on 12/1/11. At the 10/5/11 meeting at which staff attended, the subcommittee considered the tip-resistance test. The task group had no progress to report.
<i>Next Action</i>	Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee and participate in the subcommittee meeting on 4/19/12.
<i>Product</i>	Jewelry, Children’s
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Howe, Jason
<i>Purpose</i>	To provide technical support to the development and maintenance of the ASTM <i>Standard Specification for Consumer Product Safety for Children’s Jewelry</i> (ASTM F2923) to improve safety.
<i>Activities</i>	The new ASTM <i>Standard Specification for Consumer Product Safety for Children’s Jewelry</i> (ASTM F2923-11) was approved on 11/1/11. The ASTM-initiated Inter Laboratory Study (ASTM ILS #0688) concerning the CPSC <i>Standard Operating Procedure for Determining Cadmium (Cd) Extractability from Children’s Metal Jewelry, February 3, 2011</i> , (CPSC-CH-E1004-11) was nearing completion at the end of the reporting period.

<i>Next Action</i>	Continue to monitor and provide technical support to the ASTM F15.24 subcommittee in its work maintaining the ASTM F2923 safety standard on children's jewelry.
<i>Product</i>	Ladders
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Caton, Tom
<i>Purpose</i>	To provide technical support to the ANSI A14 Committee for Ladder Safety and Ladder Standards, which maintains consensus safety standards for various types of ladders.
<i>Activities</i>	The safety standards within this committee's scope of 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); <i>Mobile Ladder Stands and Mobile Ladder Stand Platforms</i> (ANSI A14.7); and <i>Safety Requirements for Disappearing Attic Stairways</i> (ANSI-ASC A14.9). The ANSI ASC A14.8 subcommittee completed a draft ladder accessory standard for review by the ANSI ASC A14 Committee. The utility step stool standard was awaiting approval of changes made by the subcommittee before going back to the full committee for review. In 12/11, CPSC staff sent a letter to the task group's chairman about working together on gathering ladder incident data.
<i>Next Action</i>	Staff will monitor the ANSI ladder meeting minutes and will provide appropriate technical support at the task group and subcommittee meetings.
<i>Product</i>	Lighters, Cigarette
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Khanna, Rik
<i>Purpose</i>	To provide technical support for the maintenance and revision of the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Lighters</i> (ASTM F400-04) and the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Utility Lighters</i> (ASTM F2201-10) in order to improve product safety.
<i>Activities</i>	An anticipated task group meeting to explore the expansion of the scope of the ASTM F15.02 subcommittee did not occur during this reporting period. The subcommittee continued to discuss the desirability of definition refinements to include maximum vapor pressure to address potential hazards with refillable lighters.
<i>Next Action</i>	Participate in the ASTM F15.02 subcommittee's next meeting in 6/12.

<i>Product</i>	Mattresses
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Campbell, Jacqueline
<i>Purpose</i>	To assist in the development of an International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard for mattress flammability, based on the test method specified in the CPSC's <i>Standard for the Flammability (Open-Flame) of Mattress Sets</i> (16 CFR part 1633).
<i>Activities</i>	An ISO <i>Standard Test Method for Measuring the Heat Release Rate of Low Flammability Mattresses and Mattress Sets</i> (ISO 12949:2011) was approved on 10/7/11. Staff provided technical support to the development of this standard.
<i>Next Action</i>	Staff will continue to monitor and provide technical support to ISO activities to develop safety standards to reduce mattress flammability.
<i>Product</i>	Mattresses, Inflatable Air
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Midgett, Jonathan
<i>Purpose</i>	To develop an ASTM safety standard to eliminate or reduce serious injuries caused when babies suffocate on inflatable air mattresses.
<i>Activities</i>	ASTM resubmitted a previous ballot that had received negative votes. The ballot did not receive enough return votes to move the ballot forward. This issue remained unresolved.
<i>Next Action</i>	The ASTM F15.63 subcommittee will need to meet to discuss how to proceed.
<i>Product</i>	Monitors, Baby
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Lee, Doug
<i>Purpose</i>	To develop a new ASTM voluntary safety standard to address strangulation hazards associated with the use of baby monitors.
<i>Activities</i>	Staff reviewed injury data associated with baby monitors and considered possible safety provisions to include in a voluntary safety standard. Staff participated in ASTM meetings on 10/4/11, as well as task group conference calls on 10/20/11, 10/28/11, 2/8/12, and 2/13/12 in order to develop safety labeling and performance requirements that would reduce strangulation hazards from baby monitors. The ballot for this new standard was open from 3/9/12 to 4/8/12.
<i>Next Action</i>	Staff will participate in the ASTM F15.68 subcommittee meeting on 4/16/12, to review comments from the ballot.

Next Action **Mowers**

Staff Contact Murphy, John

Purpose To provide technical support to the maintenance and revision of the ANSI/Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI) *Standard for Consumer Turf Care Equipment–Walk-Behind Mowers and Ride-on Machines with Mowers–Safety Specifications* (ANSI/OPEI B71.1-2003) to reduce injuries.

Activities Hazards associated with mowers include the mower backing up or running over a person, resulting in laceration injuries from blade contact. An additional hazard is present when a mower rolls over onto the user, creating crushing injuries. Prior to the start of the reporting period, CPSC staff proposed changes to a draft revised standard the OPEI circulated to the ANSI canvass membership list. CPSC staff commented that the proposed standard should require roll over protection systems on mowers that: (1) can move away on the same path they approach on and (2) are greater than or equal to 200 kgs. (450 lbs.) instead of the proposed 400 kgs. (882 lbs.). During the reporting period, a revised mower standard neared completion of the ANSI approval process.

Next Action Complete the approval and publication of a revised ANSI *Standard for Consumer Turf Care Equipment–Walk-Behind Mowers and Ride-on Machines with Mowers–Safety Specifications* (ANSI/OPEI B71.1).

Product **National Electrical Code**

Staff Contact Lee, Doug

Purpose To revise the safety provisions of the National Fire Protection Association’s (NFPA) *National Electrical Code* (NEC), NFPA 70, to reduce electrical fires and shock incidents associated with consumer products, including appliances, electrical equipment, and wiring products.

Activities CPSC staff participated in the Fire Protection Research Foundation’s (FPRF’s) nonlinear loads project and the nonmetallic (NM) cable project meetings. These FPRF projects supported research needed by the NEC and analyzed data from nonlinear loading and arcing fires in NM cable that could cause fire conditions in electrical wiring systems. Staff also monitored activities relating to Smart Grid electrical codes and standards, to help standardize requirements enabling the rapid transition to the next generation of power distribution through the Smart Grid Initiative. Staff submitted a proposal supporting the use of receptacle-type, arc-fault circuit interrupters as an alternative means to meeting electrical safety requirements in 11/11. Staff participated in NEC Code Making Panel meetings 1/16–21/12 to consider public proposals for the 2014 edition of the NEC.

<i>Next Action</i>	Staff will continue to advocate FPRF projects in support of the NEC and will participate in <i>National Electrical Code Report on Comments</i> meetings in 12/12.
<i>Product</i>	Off-Road Vehicles
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Paul, Caroleene
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA) <i>Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles</i> (ANSI/ROHVA 1-2010) standard to include performance requirements for lateral stability, vehicle steering, and occupant protection performance. An additional purpose is to revise the draft voluntary standard for recreational off-road vehicles (ROVs) developed by the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI), ANSI/OPEI B71.9-20XX), to include performance requirements for lateral stability, vehicle steering, and occupant protection performance.
<i>Activities</i>	Staff met with ROHVA on 11/10/11, to discuss ROHVA testing in the areas of lateral stability, vehicle handling, and occupant protection. Carr Engineering, Inc. (CEI) presented their dynamic vehicle testing results that allegedly prove J-turn tests are not repeatable and a vehicle's steering characteristic does not relate to controllability or crash avoidance. Design Research Engineering (DRE) presented its computer simulation work that allegedly proves that ROHVA's occupant protection requirements are effective. Applied Safety and Ergonomics (ASE) presented their analysis that alleges no ROV incidents are addressable by design changes to the vehicle. Staff requested a public meeting with ROHVA and ASE to discuss the discrepancies in the test results between CEI and ASE.
<i>Next Action</i>	Staff will facilitate a public meeting with ROHVA and ASE to discuss the dynamic testing of ROVs, the testing results, and the analyses as they relate to vehicle stability and vehicle handling.
<i>Product</i>	Phthalates
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Dreyfus, Matt
<i>Purpose</i>	To develop a new ASTM <i>Standard Test Method for Determination of Low Levels of Phthalates in Poly (Vinyl Chloride) Products</i> (ASTM WK25759) to validate the current CPSC staff phthalate test method and integrate alternative approaches that can lead to a universally accepted methodology.
<i>Activities</i>	Staff contacted work group members to help develop a proposed test method based on thermal removal of an absorbed substance.
<i>Next Action</i>	Finalize test method and submit for approval.

Product **Playground Equipment (Children <2 Years)**

Staff Contact Nesteruk, Hope

Purpose To revise the *ASTM Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Public Use Play Equipment for Children 6 Months to 23 Months (ASTM F2373)* to reduce injuries.

Activities This equipment often is found in child care facilities. Staff monitored the activities of the ASTM F15.44 subcommittee that developed and maintains this standard. The subcommittee met on 11/14/11 to discuss the results of the 11-04 ballot. That ballot contained items adding a reference to the CPSIA, removing the specifics of 16 CFR 1303, clarifying that “indoor” applies to more than a classroom setting, and changing the reference to the ASTM F1004 standard on fasteners. The negative votes were found either nonpersuasive or were resubmitted with additional clarification. A new ballot item was prepared that clarifies crush and shear test requirements.

Next Action Monitor the subcommittee’s work and participate in the next subcommittee meeting, when it is scheduled.

Product **Playground Equipment (Home)**

Staff Contact Nesteruk, Hope

Purpose To revise the *ASTM Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Home Playground Equipment (ASTM F1148)* to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities A revised *ASTM Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Home Playground Equipment (ASTM F1148-11)* was approved on 12/1/11 and a further revision of the standard, *ASTM F1148-12*, was approved on 1/1/12. Staff monitored the activities of the ASTM F15.09 Home Playground Equipment Subcommittee. The subcommittee met on 11/15/11 to discuss ballot results and work on other items. The discussion of a warning label for home playgrounds continued, with the item from the ASTM F15 (11-04) ballot withdrawn, and a new ballot item with different language proposed. The subcommittee remained conflicted on including the word “death” in a warning label, but did include it with the repropoed ballot. A new ballot was prepared that clarified the definitions of “crush” and “shear points,” as well as removed the reference to pinch points. The committee felt that a “pinch” is not “life threatening or seriously debilitating.” Another ballot was prepared that would ensure home playground components do not collect water or debris. The final ballot item exempted freestanding playhouses.

Next Action Participate in ASTM F15.09 subcommittee meeting in 5/12.

<i>Product</i>	Playground Equipment (Public)
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Nesteruk, Hope
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Public Playground Equipment</i> (ASTM F1487) to strengthen its safety provisions.
<i>Activities</i>	<p>A revised ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Public Playground Equipment</i> (ASTM F1487-11) was approved on 10/15/11. At the request of the ASTM F15.29 subcommittee chair and vice chair, a meeting was held on 3/14/12 at CPSC headquarters. At the meeting, the latest revision to ASTM F1487 standard and its relationship to the CPSC <i>Public Playground Safety Handbook</i> were discussed. The primary topics of discussion were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is overlap and inconsistency between the ASTM F1487 standard and the CPSC Public Playground Safety Handbook. The two documents are revised on different schedules, which lead to inconsistencies. This can create issues with Certified Playground Safety Inspectors (CPSIs), particularly in states that require playgrounds to meet one or both documents. 2. The scope and intended audience of the two documents is different. Some requested that CPSC staff consider revising the Handbook to focus on issues more relevant to consumers, maintenance personnel, and playground owner/operators; while ASTM F1487 could address the design aspects that are relevant to manufactures and designers. 3. The issue of a baseline level of injuries was discussed. Due to the nature of play, is there a level of risk and/or severity of injury that can be considered acceptable. One of the attendees presented an Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS) as a possible method of focusing the scope of injuries and stated that the ASTM F1487 standard focuses on life-threatening and seriously debilitating injuries. CPSC staff explained that severity of the injury does play a role in staff's analyses, but so does the frequency and likelihood of injury.
<i>Next Action</i>	Participate in the ASTM subcommittee meeting in 05/12.

<i>Product</i>	Power Equipment (formerly Table Saws)
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Paul, Caroleene
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the UL <i>Standard for Stationary and Fixed Electric Tools</i> (UL 987) to include performance requirements to reduce or mitigate blade contact injuries from table saws.
<i>Activities</i>	CPSC staff participated in the UL Table Saw Safety Working Group web conference meetings on 10/17/11, 11/10/11, 1/17/12, and 2/27/12. The working group discussed the scope of the effort, focused on table saw blade contact

mitigation, reviewed information on blade contact injuries and approach rates, and determined that independent testing was needed to document approach rates of the operator's hand to the saw blade in table saw blade contact incidents. UL invited members of the working group to observe UL's testing of approach rates on table saws. The tests were scheduled to be conducted at the beginning of 4/12.

Next Action CPSC staff will continue to participate in the UL working group meetings and will observe UL's approach to rate testing.

Product **Ranges (Tipover)**

Staff Contact Lee, Arthur

Purpose To revise the UL *Standard for Household Electric Ranges* (UL 858) to reduce free-standing range tipover hazards.

Activities CPSC staff recommended changes to the UL 858 standard in the following areas: (1) requirements for removing power when the range is not horizontal; (2) requirements for a visual indicator that activates when the range is not anchored; and (3) requirements to increase the loaded test weight. UL accepted CPSC staff recommendations for consideration in 11/11. The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers submitted a letter to UL regarding CPSC staff's proposals. In 1/12, UL informed CPSC staff that a working group was being formed to address comments and questions related to CPSC staff's proposals and that it would be chaired by a UL staff member.

Next Action CPSC staff will participate in the working group when it is formed.

Product **Shopping Carts**

Staff Contact White, Sharon

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Shopping Carts* (ASTM F2372) to reduce injuries to children associated with falls from shopping carts.

Activities A revised ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Shopping Carts* (ASTM F2372-11) was approved on 10/15/11. A further revision, ASTM *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Shopping Carts* (ASTM F2372-11a) was approved on 12/1/11. Prior to the reporting period, staff worked with industry to revise the ASTM F2372 standard to include a warning poster to be made available within retail stores. The poster contains language and symbols from the ASTM F2372 labeling requirements, plus an additional safety message that warns against the use of personal infant carriers in shopping carts. In response to a recent fatality involving this product, staff proposed that the ASTM F2372 labeling requirements be revised to include a warning against the use of

personal infant carriers in shopping carts. In 12/11, the standard was approved, and it was published in 1/12.

Next Action Staff will continue to collect and analyze injury data. Staff also will consider how to communicate additional information on safe use of shopping carts.

Product **Smoke Alarms**

Staff Contact Lee, Arthur

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

Activities In 10/11, staff participated in a meeting to develop a NFPA Report on Comments (ROC) to consider improvements to the 2013 edition of the NFPA 72 standard, including provisions dealing with smoke alarms. A conference call was held in 11/11, to consider outstanding issues. In 3/12, staff presented at a NFPA conference on the subject of smoke alarm flammability.

Next Action Participate in UL 217 task group activities by proposing safety provisions to the UL 217 standard and thereby improve consumer safety.

Product **Soccer Goals**

Staff Contact Amodeo, Vincent

Purpose To revise the ASTM *Standard Safety and Performance Specification for Soccer Goals* (ASTM 2056) and the ASTM *Standard Safety Specification for Special Tip-Resistant Movable Soccer Goals* (ASTM F2673) to reduce the hazard of soccer goals tipping over.

Activities Staff reviewed a new draft standard that merges the ASTM F2673 and ASTM F2056 soccer goal standards. This new standard ensures that any size of soccer goal made to this new standard provides a higher level of safety and is tip resistant.

Next Action Staff will continue to provide technical support to the subcommittee.

Product **Strollers**

Staff Contact Edwards, Patty

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

Activities

At the 10/6/11 meeting, the subcommittee considered several proposals, including the test methods for rotating seats, aftermarket car seat carriers that fit multiple makes and models of seats, head entrapments in gaps around car seats on travel systems, finger amputations in canopies and saddle hinges, latch integrity, wheel detachment, brake engagement, and buckle release. The testing laboratories were uncomfortable certifying a stroller when they were not able to test every type and model of car seat on a universal frame stroller.

Some firms were concerned that the cost and time of testing the product were exorbitant, while other firms were concerned about their liability when their car seat falls off of some other firm's stroller. The proposal to test travel system containment was partially based on the anthropometric analysis of rolling out of a bassinet, but CPSC staff cautioned against applying this analysis to the seated infant because the actions required for getting out of the seat are different, and potentially more complex, than an infant lying flat inside a bassinet. To test for finger amputation prevention, the subcommittee reviewed a series of photographs of incident samples and discussed how to locate the important components that need to be tested. Both a fixture in the seat that mimics the reach zone of an occupant, and a locator window option, based on the injury incidents, were considered.

A proposal was considered that would protect consumers from wheels falling off of jogging strollers that involves a 100-lb weight that rotates on the wheels. Another proposal was copied from the bicycle standard to cover quick release devices. The types of wheels to be covered by these tests still needed to be defined. A proposal to test brake engagement involved dragging the weighted stroller five times over a test bed covered with sandpaper and determining the extent of a wheel's rotation under the load. A need still existed to find a strategy for preventing false engagement of the brakes. A proposal to prevent buckle release also was discussed. Some concerns about the definition of double action release mechanisms encompassing bayonet latches were debated. The drawstrings requirements were noted, but had not changed significantly since the last meeting.

A clarification to the test method for stability was reviewed and will go to ballot. In new business, a firm reported complaints that the crotch strap requirements were too tight and seemed to be promoting that caregivers not use them due to comfort concerns. A task group was created to consider an option to allow crotch straps to grow with the occupant. The task groups will continue to work on all of these proposals. At the 1/25/12 meeting, ballot results were discussed. The committee noted that some fabric covers were too thin to prevent the pinch hazard at canopy and saddle hinges, but the standard would not require testing those hinges as currently worded.

Next Action

The subcommittee task groups will continue to develop proposals to address the issues that have been identified. Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the subcommittee and participate in a subcommittee meeting on 4/20/2012.

Product	Swimming Pools and Spas
Staff Contact	Eilbert, Mark
Purpose	To provide technical support to the development of voluntary safety standards to reduce deaths and injuries associated with swimming pools, spas, wading pools, and hot tubs. An additional purpose is to provide technical support to voluntary safety standards activities associated with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act (VGB Act), which deals with entrapment hazards in swimming pools, wading pools, spas, and hot tubs, as well as products such as pool drain covers.
Activities	Adherence to the entrapment safety provisions of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/Association of Pool and Spa Professionals (APSP) <i>American National Standard for Suction Fittings for Use in Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, Spas, and Hot Tubs</i> (ANSI/APSP-16-2011) is required by the VGB Act. An APSP-16 working group was formed to investigate the effect of changes to the APSP-16 - 2011 standard. Substantive changes to the flow ratings tests for suction outlet fitting assemblies (SOFAs) had been approved by subcommittee ballots. The APSP-16 group met with CPSC staff at CPSC's National Product Testing and Evaluation Center on 2/8–9/12 to discuss plans to investigate the changes to hair and body entrapment tests. CPSC technical staff presented a designed experiment that incorporated the APSP-16-2011 standard test procedures. After discussion, the APSP-16 approved the general CPSC approach. The investigation of the APSP-16 changes to hair and body test procedures that affect the SOFA flow ratings was planned to commence with a pilot study, followed by a fully designed experiment of several representative SOFAs.
Next Action	Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the APSP subcommittees and participate in the investigation of changes to test procedures in the APSP-16 standard.
Product	Toys
Staff Contact	Amodeo, Vincent
Purpose	To revise the ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety</i> (ASTM F963) to strengthen its safety provisions.
Activities	A revised ASTM <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety</i> (ASTM F963-11) was approved on 12/1/11. In general, the new standard contains refinements, corrections, and new requirements that will increase safety and enhance the clarity and utility of the standard. Twelve new definitions, 16 references to other standards, and three new figures were added. The amount of heavy metals in substrates of toys and the test methods for determining those levels were updated to the most current requirements and procedures. The levels of lead allowed in surface coatings also were aligned with the newest federal requirements. About 43 other sections and subsections of the standard were refined, clarified, or

expanded. One requirement was aligned with an international toy standard (ISO 8124). Additionally, the new version has three new annexes which, although not binding, contain important information for toy manufacturers.

Next Action Provide technical support to ASTM working group activities and participate in upcoming subcommittee meetings.

Product **Treestands**

Staff Contact Lee, Arthur

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

Activities CPSC staff monitored the ASTM F08.16 subcommittee that is responsible for developing and maintaining voluntary standards for treestands; however, there was no subcommittee activity during this reporting period.

Next Action CPSC staff will continue to monitor the subcommittee's activities and provide technical support, as appropriate.