

**LOG OF MEETING**  
**DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES**

CPSA 6 (b)(7) Cleared  
2/1/7/1995  
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**SUBJECT:** Meeting With UL to Discuss Crib Certification

**DATE OF MEETING:** March 29, 1996      **PLACE:** CPSC Headquarters  
Bethesda, MD

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** John Preston, ES *JPF*

**DATE OF ENTRY:** April 1, 1995

**COMMISSION ATTENDEES:** Andy Stadnik, AED, ES, John Preston, ES,  
Terri Rogers, CCA

**NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:** Dave Haataja, UL, Bob Miller, UL,  
Margie Bell, M Companies.

**SUMMARY OF MEETING:**

The meeting was requested by UL to discuss the adequacy of the current JPMA third-party certification program for cribs.

UL was aware that three certified cribs were the subject of 1995 recalls because slats in the side panels were falling out during use. There was discussion on whether the current standard addressing full-size crib structural integrity (ASTM F1169) was inadequate to insure slat security, whether the current certification program was not working or whether the manufacturers of the affected cribs did not have an adequate quality control program.

Mr. Miller said the current ASTM standard did not acknowledge that cribs may be used for more than one infant and, when not being used, may be stored in attics where they are subjected to extremes of temperature. Such cribs may be more likely to be involved in slat disengagement than new cribs. John Preston distributed a table listing 63 incidents of crib slat disengagement over a five year period. Preston said he had prepared the table for a meeting of the ASTM crib subcommittee that had occurred three weeks ago. He pointed out that a majority of the cribs that had experienced slat disengagement were less than two years old and, therefore, would not have been stored in attics where extremes of temperature could have compromised their integrity.

The UL representatives said that they planned to establish a Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) comprised of manufacturers, retailers, and regulators (CPSC staff) to determine whether the current ASTM standard is adequate or what other measures should be taken to prevent future incidents of crib slat disengagement.

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Preston noted that the JPMA crib certification program differs somewhat from certification programs for other juvenile products such as high chairs and strollers. He said that crib manufacturers in the program have to test their cribs themselves and keep records of these tests for examination by the certifying laboratory, Detroit Testing Laboratory (DTL). DTL visits manufacturers on a periodic basis and may observe tests of one or more cribs selected at random from the manufacturer's inventory. He also said that there is a JMPA Certification Committee that oversees the program and it generally meets at the same time as meetings of ASTM subcommittees for juvenile products are held.

Preston said that there had been a discussion of crib slat disengagement at meetings of the ASTM crib subcommittee in January and March and manufacturers believed that the problem was associated with a lack of adequate quality control during production. He said that the manufacturer members of the subcommittee believed that if a crib had not been assembled correctly, and was tested to the procedures in the existing ASTM F1169 standard, then it would not pass.

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