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LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Meeting of ASTM Subcommittee F15.29 for Public
Playground Equipment

DATE OF MEETING: Sept. 11-12, 1996 **PLACE:** ASTM Headquarters
West Conshohocken, PA

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: John Preston, ES *JP*

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: John Preston, ES

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Roger Amorosi, DTL	Kert Artwick, Game Time
Matt Bolland, Swing-N-Slide	Jay Blanke, Sportsplay Equip't
Betsy Caesar, Playcare	Curtis Cleveland, Playworld
James Druck, Play Environments	Bill Duffy, NSSEA/PEMA
Jack Gonzenbach, Miracle	Esther Grossman, Custom Play
Mike Hayward, Little Tikes	Walt Henderson, Carlisle
Teri Hendy, Site Masters	Paul Hogan, Play Clearinghouse
Tom Williams, LA Steelcraft	Marylou Iverson, Iverson Assoc.
Scott Burton, Safety Play	Mogans Jensen, Kompan
Tom Kalousek, Rockford Pk. Dis.	Peter Kells, Henderson Rec.
Robert Leathers, Leathers Co.	Leonard Lucenko, Montclair Univ.
Mike Mullins, Child's Factory	Tom Norquist, Game Time
Jeff Olson, Kompan	Kevin Owens, Playworld
Robert Pepper, Childworks	Darryl Rarich, Playworld
Jean Schappet, Woodset	Barry Segal, Leathers & Assoc.
Elaine Sherman, Parity, Inc.	Robert Stluka, Miracle
Donna Thompson, U. of N. Iowa	Fran Wallach, Total Recreation
Dana Wisner, Community Play	Marcia Rogers, Consumer
Marzy Sykes, Please Touch Me	Michael Krygier, DTL
Tracy Theems, Kompan	Paul Danforth, Kompan
Margorie Brickley, ITS-RAM	Daniel Stool, ITS-RAM
Libby Ungvary, ECELS/AAP	Kelley Hayes, Leathers Co.
Randy Watermeller, Landscape	

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

September 11th

The chairman reported that she had contacted the ASTM fencing subcommittee and requested that they look at the safety of fences around playgrounds. She also stated that she had requested the F15 Main Committee to establish the under two years of age task group as a separate subcommittee.

John Preston reported that the CPSC staff will make some revisions to the CPSC Handbook for Public Playground Safety during 1991. He said that his personal goal is to eliminate any differences between the Handbook and the proposed North American



Standard. Preston announced that a playground safety roundtable meeting would be held at CPSC on October 16th. He also said that there would be a CPSC news release regarding lead in paint on playground equipment prior to the roundtable meeting.

It was reported that the IPEMA playground equipment certification program is up and running and nine manufacturers have signed up. IPEMA is looking towards the establishment of a similar program for playground surfacing materials.

An updated draft of the North American Standard (NAS) was distributed and the working groups were asked to review appropriate sections. In a review of the NAS by the entire subcommittee an exclusion was added for soft contained play equipment. It was noted that the age of the minimum user in the NAS is 18 months as compared to two years in the current ASTM standard. A motion was approved to accept the 18 month minimum user age for the ASTM standard. It was also agreed to specify that the SI units throughout the standard would be regarded as the prime units.

The subcommittee then broke into the working groups for review of appropriate sections of the draft NAS.

September 12th

Highlights in working group reports follow:

The issue of whether there should be specific no encroachment zones has yet to be resolved.

Tack rides will be "Not recommended for children under 5 years of age."

Recommendations for cable rides will be added to the ASTM standard.

A motion was approved to allow fall zones for adjacent stationary play structures over 30 inches in height to overlap but the structures may never be less than 9 feet apart.

A motion was made to change the fall zone to the front and rear of single-axis swings to a minimum of $X + 6$ feet where X is the vertical distance from the top of the swing seat to the pivot point. CPSC staff objected to this proposed change and the motion was withdrawn.

A motion was approved to change the fall zone for rotating swings to $Y + 30$ inches in all directions from the swing pivot where Y is the vertical distance from the top of the swing seat to the pivot.

A motion was approved to permit the fall zone of rocking/springing equipment to overlap that of stationary equipment. However, the distance between equipment with designated play surfaces over 30 inches high, shall be a minimum of 9 feet.

A motion was approved to change the fall zone at slide exits as follows: "If the slide platform height is 4 feet or less, the fall zone at the exit measured from the end of the slide bed, shall be a minimum of 6 feet." The fall zone for slides over 4 feet in height was not changed.

A motion was approved the require sliding poles to extend 60 inches above a platform.

The subcommittee then reviewed a letter from Scott Burton regarding the spacing between individual play events on a composite structure. The chairman stated that she would include a copy of the letter with the minutes of this meeting and solicit comments from the membership.

The next meeting of the F15.29 subcommittee was scheduled for December 5-6, 1996

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