

LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

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SUBJECT: Meeting of ASTM Subcommittee F15.16 - F15.20 on Juvenile Products. 1998 SEP 14 P 4: 39

DATE OF MEETING: August 24-26, 1998 **PLACE:** ASTM Headquarters
W. Conshohocken, PA

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Mark Kumagai, ES

DATE OF ENTRY: August 10, 1998

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Mark Kumagai, ES

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: See attachment

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

8-24-98 F15.20 Bath Seats

Subcommittee corrected the minutes for the April 1, 1998 meeting. The minutes reported that a negative to delete the hole requirements passed. However, the negative was voted non-persuasive and the motioned failed. The minutes were corrected to reflect the vote.

The subcommittee chairman submitted a document comparing submarining in a bath seats with the 5 inch leg opening, and one on the market with larger leg openings. The subcommittee chairman stated that the smaller leg holes may cause the child to become entrapped so tight that the caregiver cannot extract the infant. He proposed to form a small task group to investigate the hole requirements.

One member pointed out that the distance between the crotch restraint and the back of the seat was critical to prevent submarining. In the high chair standard, this length is less than 8.5 inches.

CPSC staff provided the subcommittee with 39 In Depth Investigation (IDI) summary from 1/95 - 8/98 and 3 IDIs relating to submarining. The subcommittee chairman requested the CPSC staff to provide full IDIs.

1. Two negative votes were submitted, requesting removal of sections 5.9.1.2 and 5.9.2.2 and 9.3. These sections require that completely bounded openings do not pass a 5" x 5.5" probe. Negatives were found persuasive and a motion was passed to rebalot those sections.
2. All other comments were editorial in nature and were resolved by the subcommittee.

The standard will go forward for concurrent Subcommittee and Main Committee ballot on elimination of the leg hole requirements.

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Items for the next meeting: The subcommittee chairman requested the CPSC staff to provide a suction cup test protocol and results and stability test results for review by the subcommittee members.

8/24/98 F15.16 High Chairs

Subcommittee approved minutes for the April 1, 1998 meeting and reviewed the negatives and comments from the previous Main Committee ballot.

1. A negative vote was submitted requesting removal of section 6.9.2.2, which exempts requiring a restraint for chairs produced for children that can sit up unassisted. The subcommittee discussed that this section was intended for youth chairs that do not come with trays, and submarining under a tray is not an issue. The negative voter requested that the CPSC staff review the incident data for children falling out of high chairs, youth chairs, and booster seats before section 6.9.2.2 is approved. A motion was made and passed to remove this section until the data can be collected and reviewed.
2. All other comments and negatives were withdrawn or editorial in nature and were resolved by the subcommittee.

The revisions to the standard will go forward to Main Committee ballot.

Items for the next meeting: The subcommittee chairman requested the CPSC staff to provide data on incidents of children falling out of high chairs, youth chairs and booster seats.

8-24-98 F15.17 Carriages and Strollers

Subcommittee approved minutes for the March 30, 1998 meeting and reviewed the negatives and comments from the previous Main Committee ballot.

1. All comments and negatives were editorial in nature and were withdrawn or resolved by the subcommittee.
2. The standard will go forward for publication.

The subcommittee chairman discussed six CPSC IDIs involving products that were combinations of a car seat and stroller. He proposed adding a section for this type of product consisting of the static load, and use/abuse, latching mechanism, braking mechanism and stability requirements.

Items for the next meeting: The subcommittee chairman requested the members to evaluate the proposed requirements for carseat/stroller combinations.

8-24-98 F15.18 Toddler Beds

Subcommittee approved minutes for the April 1, 1998 meeting.

The subcommittee discussed the proposed test for partially bound openings between guardrail and adjacent structure. The subcommittee chairman proposed using a 1.5 inch diameter probe to test for partially bounded entrapment hazards. He explained the differences between this probe and the method used for the Gates and Enclosure standard.

CPSC staff volunteered to review the rationale for the test methods used in the Gate and Playground standard and present these findings to the subcommittee chairman before the next meeting.

The next publication of the Toddler Bed standard is scheduled in September 1998.

8-25-98 F15.18 Cribs

Subcommittee approved minutes for the March 31, 1998 meeting and reviewed the comments from the previous subcommittee ballot.

1. Two comments were submitted to clarify the pass/fail criteria of a side rail as described in section 6.10.4. The subcommittee agreed to accept wording as "Breakage of the wooden crib side component in any location other than a joint."
2. A revised crib slat test section was submitted to include increasing the test parameters from 50 drops of a 25 lb weight to 250 drops of a 30 lb weight. A requirement to apply a 30 lbf-in torque to each slat was also added.
3. The proposed revisions will be balloted by the Main Committee.

Items for the next meeting: The subcommittee chairman requested the CPSC staff to provide data on canopy cribs and entanglement.

8-25-98 F15.17 Infant Walkers

Subcommittee approved minutes for the March 31, 1998 meeting.

The subcommittee chairman submitted suggested changes to the stairfall test to clarify the testing and reduce variability of the test results. The changes specified the position of the CAMI dummy and the direction of the swivel wheels. The subcommittee chairman presented data comparing test variability using the existing method and the proposed method.

The subcommittee discussed if multiple tests are needed to account for variance in the test method.

The standard will be printed January 1999.

Items for the next meeting: The subcommittee chairman requested the manufacturers and the CPSC to re-test walkers in accordance to a detailed test protocol.

8-26-98 F15.18 Play Yards

Subcommittee approved minutes for the April 1, 1998 meeting and reviewed the comments from the previous Main Committee ballot.

1. One negative suggested deleting the top rail test method of placing the play yard on a 45 degree plane and applying a 100 lb force. The negative voter described that when tested in this manner, some play yards that were taller than wider would tip over.

The subcommittee agreed that this method should be modified and the test should be conducted against a wall or in a test fixture consisting of a floor and a wall tilted 45 degrees. New language and figures were drafted describing the testing.

2. One negative was requested the standard to prevent the floor pad from detaching from the base. The voter was aware of two deaths where an infant became trapped underneath the pad and suffocated. The voter also stated that when non-full size mattresses (38" x 26") are used in mesh sided cribs, a gap between the mattress and the mesh wall creates a strangulation hazard. The voter was aware of 3 deaths associated with after market mattresses being used in a playpen. The subcommittee found this negative non-persuasive because it did not relate to the revisions that were balloted. The subcommittee did agree to consider addressing these issues at the next meeting. The subcommittee chairman requested the CPSC staff to provide the IDIs and perform a data search on similar hazard pattern.

3. All other comments and negatives were editorial in nature and were resolved by the subcommittee.

4. Revisions to the standard will be balloted by the Main Committee.

New Business: A proposal to change the scope of the standard to include a child outside of the product. The voter suggested the change to address carrying straps located at the bottom of the play yard. The subcommittee voted to keep the scope as is.

The voter also requested that the certification committee accept affidavits from the manufacturer stating that the play yard meets the Federal Regulation 16 CFR 1500.44 Method for Determining Extremely Flammable and Flammable Solids.

Items for the next meeting: The subcommittee chairman requested the CPSC staff to provide on catch points to develop requirements to address this hazard.

8-26-98 F15.17 Stationary Activity Centers

Subcommittee approved minutes for the March 30, 1998 meeting and reviewed the negatives and comments from the subcommittee ballot.

1. One negative voter requested that the scope of the standard address only the safety of occupants inside the Stationary Activity Center (SAC). The subcommittee voted to rule the negative non-persuasive and the scope remains to include a user outside of the SAC.
2. One negative voter requested that section 5.3 of the standard allow an alternative two step latch mechanism as is included in other standards such as play yards. The subcommittee voted to add this provision.
3. One negative voter requested simplifying the wording in section 6.1.1 Dynamic Load and the associated tests in 7.1.1. The subcommittee agreed and drafted new language.
4. One negative voter requested adding a warning label to "Never use near stairs." The subcommittee found this negative persuasive and voted to add this label to section 9.3.2 .
5. All other comments and negatives were editorial in nature and were resolved by the subcommittee.
6. Revisions to the standard will be balloted by the subcommittee.

New Business: The subcommittee reviewed the CPSC staff's letter suggesting the committee to address motion in a SAC. The CPSC staff recommended that SAC that allow the occupant's feet to touch the ground should meet the stairfall requirements in the Infant Walker standard. For SACs that enclose the occupant and do not allow the occupant's feet to touch the ground, CPSC staff recommended that the manufacturer's observe children in the product to better understand the dynamic characteristics of the product.

Items for the next meeting: The subcommittee chairman requested the manufacturers to observe children moving in their SACs. The CPSC staff was asked to provide updated the incident data.

8-26-98 F15.21 Infant Carriers

Subcommittee approved minutes for the March 31, 1998 meeting.

The subcommittee discussed three proposals for a handle endurance test. The CPSC method was to suspend the carrier by the handle and against back of the carrier to simulate an adult propping the carrier on his/her hip. A 17.5 lb CAMI infant dummy is placed in the carrier for 5 minutes. If the handle latch mechanism slips out of the lock position, the carrier fails. The CPSC staff also recommended that an artificial aging test be conducted prior to the endurance test.

A second test proposed by one of the manufacturers was to attach a 15 lb weight from a chain onto the handle and drop it 6 inches. If the handle disengages from the latched position, the carrier fails.

A third test proposal was to mount the carrier onto a table and measure handle pull force to overcome the latch. The handle latch pass/fail criteria would be a minimum force.

Skid resistance test and stability test were also proposed by subcommittee members. One skid test required the carrier (with the 17.5 lb CAMI) remain stationary when pulled on with a 5 lb for 30 seconds. Another skid test called for the carrier to be placed on a 20 degree incline with an 8 lb sand bag in the seat. The carrier should not move more than 1/8 inch in 5 minutes to pass the test. One proposed stability test required the carrier with CAMI dummy to not tip over when placed on an inclined surface.

Warning labels to address the strangulations in the straps, suffocation due to tip overs, and injuries due to falls off of elevated surfaces were also discussed. Two manufacturers of carriers that are not used as car seats presented their warning labels and the CPSC staff provided a recommended label.

The CPSC staff also presented car seat/carrier incident data resulting in death due to suffocation, strangulation in straps, falls and SIDs.

Items for the next meeting: The subcommittee chairman requested the CPSC staff and the manufacturers to perform and provide handle, slip resistance and tip over test results using the proposed test methods.

8-26-98 F15.21 Infant Swings

Subcommittee approved minutes for the March 31, 1998 meeting.

CPSC staff provided summaries of selected IDIs for the subcommittee to review. One incident of a 4 day old baby submarining through one of the leg holes was discussed. Several of the subcommittee members stated that the youngest user is a newborn and that this issue should be addressed in the standard. Further discussion included types of structural failures such as fastener backing out and leg support failing. The subcommittee chairman drafted a standard for the subcommittee to evaluate. The draft standard includes performance requirements for static loads, stability, unintentional folding, restraints, battery compartments and labels.

Items for the next meeting: The subcommittee chairman requested the CPSC staff and the manufacturers to evaluate the proposed draft standard.

8-27-98 F15.16 Expandable Gates and Enclosures

Subcommittee approved minutes for the March 30, 1998 meeting and review of the Main Committee ballot to uphold the not persuasive vote.

The Committee on Standards will review how the negative was handled.

The subcommittee discussed the hole requirements to address the negative vote. The subcommittee chairman presented an analysis of the hole requirements described in section 5.6 and how a passing keyhole shape could be considered a finger entrapment and failing holes that are not hazardous. The subcommittee chairman will draft figures and wording to clarify section 5.6.

The subcommittee chairman presented the push out test data and analysis. The chairman requested that the CPSC staff suggest a pass/fail criteria for push out force.

CPSC staff did not find any incidents of entanglement on gates and the subcommittee decided not to address this issue.

New business: A manufacturer of an enclosure designed to create a fence around exercise equipment requested that the subcommittee include his product to be covered by the standard. The enclosure is marketed as a safety device to prevent children from accessing the equipment, and preventing injuries such as amputations. The subcommittee decided that this product was not in the scope of the standard because of its intended use to prevent access to a product rather than contain a child, and also the age range of the child was older than 2 years.

CPSC staff reported an incident in the United Kingdom where a 2 year old child became entrapped in a gate with 4 inch slat spacing and died.

Items for the next meeting: The subcommittee chairman requested the subcommittee and CPSC staff evaluate the push out test and develop pass/fail criteria.

8-27-98 F15.19 Infant Bedding and Related Accessories

Subcommittee approved minutes for the March 30, 1998 meeting and reviewed the negatives and comments from the Main Committee ballot.

1. Two voters submitted negatives on section 8.2.3 on the warning label, "To prevent suffocation. Do not put any pillow in a crib or near and area where an infant may sleep. Pillows are a decorator item only and are not intended for an infant's use." The voters requested that this standard prohibit pillows that could be used inside of cribs. The voters were concerned with the potential suffocation hazard similar to a bean bag infant pillows. The subcommittee voted the negative non-persuasive. The subcommittee believed that the warning label was sufficient and the product was not the same construction as the bean bag infant pillow.
2. One negative and one comment requested that all labels conform to ANSI Z535.4. The subcommittee agreed that this requirement should be added.
3. One comment on the vinyl thickness for bumper guards suggested to delete reference to the spring loaded micrometer to measure the thickness. The subcommittee agreed and also decided to drop the reference to 12 gage thickness and simply refer to the minimum thickness to be 0.30.
4. Other negatives and comments were editorial in nature and were resolved by the subcommittee.
5. The uphold negatives will be balloted to the Main Committee.

Items for the next meeting: The subcommittee chairman requested the CPSC staff provide an update of the incident data concerning suffocation in bedding and entanglement in canopy drapes.

ATTACHMENT

ATTENDEES AT ASTM/JPMA MEETINGS, AUGUST 24-27

Meeting Identification: 1) Gates & Enclosures, 2) Stationary Activity Centers, 3) Strollers, 4) Infant Bedding, 5) Cribs, 6) Walkers, 7) Baby Swings, 8) Infant Carriers, 9) High Chairs, 10) Play Yards, 11) Toddler Beds, 12) Bath Seats.

NAME	COMPANY/AFFILIATION	MEETING ATTENDANCE												
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
John Abbott	NHTSA								X					
Roger Amorosi	Detroit Testing Lab.			X		X				X	X		X	X
Clair Arsenault	Graco		X	X			X		X	X				
Royce Beecham	Okla Homer Smith					X								
David Campbell	Century									X				
Cecil Cantey	Cantey & Assoc.			X		X				X	X		X	X
Robert Connor	The First Years									X				X
Robert Craig	B & R Consulting	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X
Donald Currier	North States Inds.	X												
Robert B. Davis	Bassett Furniture					X								
Francois Dignard	Health Canada	X	x	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X
Jerry Drobinski	Simplicity, Inc.	X	X	X	X	X			X	X			X	
Francisco Elizondo	Noel Joanna, Inc.				X									
Terry Emerson	Cosco, Inc.	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X
Mary Ellen Fise	CFA				X	X				X	X		X	
Werner Freitag	Consumer		X	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X

NAME	COMPANY/AFFILIATION	MEETING ATTENDANCE												
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
John Geelyne	Lamby Nursery			X					X					
Steve Gerhart	Graco		X			X	X	X	X					
Richard Glover	Cosco	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tim Harris	Peg Perego			X						X				
Ron Hoffman	Graco		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Arthur Kazianis	Hasbro/Playskool			X						X			X	
Cindy Kemp	Gerry Baby Products	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
James Kinney	ACTS Testing Labs.	X		X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Al Kozak	ACTS Testing Labs.	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mark Kumagai	CPSC	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Jeff Lipko	ITS		X						X	X	X	X	X	X
Rick Locker	JPMA Counsel											X		
Paula Markowitz	Patchcraft, Inc.				X									
Kathy Morgan	ASTM	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Julie Morris	Gerry Baby Products			X		X		X					X	X

