

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared
2/11/97
No Mfrs/Prvt/Blis or
Products Identified
Excepted by _____
Firms Notified,
Comments Processed.

LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Meeting with Molded Plastic Home Playground Equipment
Manufacturers to Discuss Guardrails on Platforms

DATE OF MEETING: January 23, 1997 **PLACE:** East West Towers
Bethesda, MD

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: John Preston, ES *JP*

DATE OF ENTRY: January 27, 1997

COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

John Preston, ES	Jean Kennedy, CCA
Bob Ochsman, ESHF	Andy Stadnik, ES
Debbie Tinsworth, EHHA	Mary Donaldson, ECSS
Scott Heh, ESME	Suad Nakamura, EHPS

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Lindsay Harris, Fisher-Price	Tom Mazurek, Fisher-Price
Guy Lyon, Little Tikes	Lynn Markley, Little Tikes
Chuck Obendorf, Step 2 Co.	
Maureen Cislo, PSL	

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

The playground equipment manufacturers requested the meeting for the purpose of discussing requirements for guardrails on elevated platforms that are over 30 inches in height but not over 48 inches. This subject was a topic of discussion at a December 3, 1996 meeting of the ASTM F15.09 Subcommittee for Home Playground Equipment. At that meeting a motion was approved to add a requirement to the ASTM F1148 standard for protective barriers on platforms over 48 inches above the ground. However, there was disagreement on the appropriate height of guardrails or barriers on platforms between 30 and 48 inches in height.

The manufacturers attending this meeting contended that 18 inch high guardrails or confinement walls are sufficient. The CPSC staff had previously recommended 27 inch high guardrails on platforms over 30 inches from the ground. The manufacturers stated that 27 inch high guardrails would require the overall height of the equipment to be increased and this could result in an increase in the severity of an injury in the event that a child would climb onto and fall from the guardrail. The manufacturers also noted that changes in the design of molded plastic playground equipment would be costly since new molds would be required.

