



MEETING LOG

SUBJECT: Meeting of the ASTM F15.79 Task Group on Beach Umbrellas

FY 26 OP PLAN ENTRY: Market Umbrellas/ Beach Umbrellas

DATE OF MEETING: February 12, 2026

LOCATION OF MEETING: Virtual/WebEx

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Andy Newens (ESMC)

FILING DATE: March 2, 2026

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Andy Newens (ESMC), Sharon White (ESHF), Caroleene Paul (ESMC)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Contact ASTM for the attendee list

Summary of Meeting:

The Beach Umbrellas (BU) Task Group (TG) was formed by the ASTM F15.79 Market Umbrellas Subcommittee to develop safety standards and test methods for BUs installed in or on the sand. There are several incidents in which fly-away BUs have seriously injured beachgoers, including two deaths. The voluntary standard, ASTM F3681-25, *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Beach Umbrellas and Anchor Devices*, was updated in July 2025. The specifications establish minimum requirements for safely anchoring all beach umbrellas to prevent them from detaching from the sand due to windy conditions.

The TG met to discuss stakeholder comments and proposed changes to the standard. Regarding the test methods, a participant raised an issue with the requirement to use “a test fixture/sand box having the minimum test area dimensions of 3 ft long by 3 ft wide by 2 ft deep.” This wording implies a rectangular shape, but the participant has already performed wind tunnel testing using a 3-foot-diameter, cylindrical sand container and believes it is equally as effective. CPSC staff agreed with other members that the cylindrical container meets the intention of the requirements because there is still 1.5 feet of clearance from the center of the umbrella anchor to avoid interference of the container walls. This issue will be considered in the next revision of the standard.

TG members also continued the discussion from the previous meeting about proposed revisions to the warning label requirements, including: 1) providing a QR code on the warning label so users can access the label in their own language, 2) not requiring products that meet the performance requirements to have warning labels on the underside of the canopy, 3) reducing the number of required on-product warning labels from two to one, and 4) not depicting blood on the label because at least one TG member deemed the blood depiction as too graphic for family-friendly audiences. One participant volunteered to prepare a written proposal with these recommendations for review at the next meeting. CPSC staff reiterated the need and rationale for the standard’s current warning label requirements.

Next Steps:

The TG agreed to continue discussing these proposals at the next meeting but did not set a date for a virtual meeting ahead of the in-person meeting scheduled during ASTM Committee Week in Dallas, Texas on May 7, 2026, from 9am to 5pm (Central Time).