

LOG OF MEETING DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Meeting of the ASTM Ad Hoc Language Task Group

DATE OF MEETING: January 30, 2018

PLACE OF MEETING: Virtual (teleconference)

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Tim Smith (ESHF)

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Tim Smith (ESHF), Suad Wanna-Nakamura (HSPP)

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Kitty Pilarz (Fisher-Price), Carolyn Pochatek (Fisher-Price), and other task group members.
Contact ASTM for complete attendee list.

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

This meeting of the ASTM Ad Hoc Language Task Group ("Ad Hoc TG") was led by the chairperson, Kitty Pilarz. The meeting focused on two topics:

- 1) *What constitutes "special circumstances" that would preclude the use of colors in warnings on base materials.* Carolyn Pochatek, Director of soft goods engineering for Fisher-Price, was asked to join the meeting, based on her expertise on silk screening and printing processes. After Ms. Pochatek's explanation of the processes involved in direct-printing a warning, and a lengthy discussion among the task group members, the consensus of the task group was that special circumstances should be considered to apply in the following cases:
 - Silk screening is desirable because a separate sewn label would adversely affect the usability of the product (e.g., folding a collapsible product would be more difficult) or would render the warning less permanent.
 - Meeting the color requirements would require multiple silk screening processes that would apply a significant amount of additional ink to the product, which may decrease the permanence of the warning, particularly in locations where the product may be flexed repeatedly.
 - A warning that underwent multiple silk screening processes to meet the color requirements would result in a negligible improvement in contrast compared to silk screening the warning onto the base material (e.g., a warning message panel in which white text is printed directly onto a dark brown material).
- 2) *The Ad Hoc TG's interpretation of whether a sample warning from an instruction book meets the Ad Hoc recommended format requirements for warnings in instructional literature.* The consensus of the task group was that the warning being considered, which did not

include a signal word panel in orange or with a border surround, likely meets the Ad Hoc requirements, because:

- a. the warnings in instructional literature are not required to be in color and are not required to have borders;
- b. the signal word and safety alert symbol contrast with the signal word panel;
- c. the signal word panel is clearly delineated from the message panel by white space; and
- d. the warnings contrast with the background of the instructional literature.

The Ad Hoc TG chair concluded the meeting by stating that she would forward a document with these interpretations to the task group for final review before submitting them to ASTM for ballot.