

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
LOG OF MEETING

SUBJECT: Soft infant and toddler carrier (SITC) – Leg openings task group

DATE OF MEETING: 30 January 2018

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Hope E J. Nesteruk, ESMC

LOCATION: Teleconference

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Hope Nesteruk, ESMC;

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Contact ASTM for attendance list.

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

This task group is meeting to address the test method for unbounded opening and questions that have been raised about back carries and unbounded openings. It has been noticed that the unbounded leg opening test instructs to attach the SITC to front of the test torso, but some SITCs may have a back carry position. Therefore it may be unclear if the carrier should be testing on the back of the test torso. The task group chair reported that he polled the labs, and found that there was some confusion about how to test a SITC with unbounded leg openings in a back carry position, confirm that there some clarifications is needed.

The task group reviewed incident data, and found that there was only one incident in the CPSC staff provided spreadsheet that was a known back carry and a child that fell through the leg openings. However, when staff looked up details of the incidents, it was a frame carrier that had been miss-categorized.

The task group then moved on to discussing when a back carry was appropriate. Some manufacturers are using the developmental milestone of a child being able to sit up unassisted. The group discussed if this was an appropriate milestone, as some felt it was less clear than it appears at first glance. For example, does "sit unassisted" mean when a child can put themselves in a sitting position or does it mean that they don't fall over when a caregiver places them in a sitting position. Group members were concerned that the developmental milestone is really full trunk control; however, it was acknowledged that for most parents, sitting unassisted was the best explanation.

The next area of discussion was how test results may vary when the carrier is tested on the front or back. Some task group members felt that the test torso was more like test equipment, and not necessarily supposed to be a front/back like a person. On the other hand, one test lab reported that they had seen a SITC that passed on the front but not the back, implying that there may be a reason to test it on both sides. The group felt that round robin testing was likely needed to determine if we need to test in all carry position.

Nest steps: (1) looking into round robin testing and (2) obtain more info on how many SITCs labs have seen that pass in on position and fail in another.