

**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
Log of Meeting**

**SUBJECT:** WCMA Rigid Cord Shroud Task Group Meeting

**DATE OF MEETING:** April 10, 2018

**LOCATION:** Teleconference

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** Rana Balci-Sinha

**DATE OF LOG ENTRY:** April 11, 2018

**CPSC ATTENDEES:** Rana Balci-Sinha, Howard Tarnoff

**NON-CPSC ATTENDEES:** Contact WCMA for the list of attendees

**SUMMARY OF MEETING:**

Task group (TG) chair Derick Marsh convened the meeting. Based on comments received during the meeting, the meeting notes that were sent out prior to the meeting will be revised and resent. The language needs to state that devices that are intended to be attached to an existing window covering as aftermarket units, are not covered by the WCMA/ANSI standard.

Derick Marsh reviewed the draft language that he sent out prior to the meeting. The proposed rigid cord shroud definition now includes the word "inflexible", which still needs clarification. Mr. Marsh proposed that if a rigid cord shroud allows access to cords, then it needs to follow the requirements for looped cord and bead chain restraining device requirements. If the cord shroud does not allow any accessible cords, then durability, impact, operation, and a future "Deflection and Wrap-Around" requirements would apply. In addition, the existing hazardous test loop procedure cannot be applied to operating cords but only to looped cords. Mr. Marsh will work on developing a rigidity and/or hazardous loop test procedure to test if a wrap-around scenario is possible.

Next meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2018 via teleconference.



WINDOW COVERING  
MANUFACTURERS  
ASSOCIATION

Window Covering Manufacturers Association  
Rigid Shroud Task Group Teleconference  
April 10, 2018  
10:00 am - 11:00 am ET  
Call in: 866-210-1669  
Passcode: 5754464 #

Minutes

I. Welcome and call to order

II. Antitrust review

Ralph Vasami reviewed the antitrust requirements governing the meeting.

III. Roll call

Derick Marsh – Chair  
Rich Gottuso (Hunter Douglas)  
Tom Merker (Springs Window Fashion)  
Will Lynch (SafeTShade)  
Rennato Ottaviani (Maxxmar Window Fashions)  
Howard Tarnoff (CPSC)  
Rana Balci-Sinha (CPSC)  
Linda Kaiser (Parents for Window Blind Safety)  
Ralph Vasami (WCMA)  
Jim Anthony (Hunter Douglas)  
Mike Twomey, Esq. (Kantor)  
Jacquelyn Weber (SafeTShade)

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes. Rich Gottuso seconded the motion.

Linda Kaiser wanted to clarify a paragraph under "Other Matters to Consider", for the sentence that reads, "Consensus among the Group was that a device designed to be installed in the field by someone other than the manufacturer (such as a retrofit device) was acceptable under the Standard and that this language was not designed to restrict installation of safety devices onto existing,

355 Lexington Avenue, 17th Floor  
New York, NY 10017-6603  
Phone: (212) 297-2122  
Fax: (212) 370-9047

installed window coverings.” The Group had issue with the statement “installed in the field by someone other than the manufacturer...was acceptable under the Standard.”

Derick responded by saying that retrofits are a post-sale activity and therefore will not be addressed in this standard. That language was not designed to restrict the use of a retrofit device, as the original language implied.

The language in the minutes will change to, “consensus among the Group was that a device designed to be installed in the field by someone other than the manufacturer (such as a retrofit device) “is not addressed by the standard.” The group came to consensus that this language should be modified in the minutes, and a note be made a future task group or committee resolve this issue.

Motion to approve as modified has been accepted. The minutes were approved.

## **V. Review Proposal**

Derick led a discussion on the working draft of the standard. Relevant definitions discussed include; accessible cords, cord shroud, cord and bead chain restraining device.

The Group moved to formulate the definition of rigid, address the force and twist tests for the rigid covers, and discussed what the appropriate parameters for testing should be.

The Group then moved to a discussion on accessibility and the extent to which a person can touch the cord. This included discussions on the durability and longevity of the inaccessibility. The definition of inaccessible will be addressed in a future discussion.

Derick moved on to section 6.3 and opened up this section for discussion, mainly the prospect of creating a separate section under 6.3 for Rigid Designs. Derick explained that a rigid cord shroud can be considered a restraining device for the purposes of this standard. This led into a discussion of the differences between shrouding and covering and whether or not a warning sticker must be included on the device.

The Group agreed that a sample of each size of the shroud covering should be tested for durability. The Group also agreed to make a video illustrating how the shroud covering tests would work.

6.3.2.2- Derick led a discussion to determine the extent of testing for rigid shroud covers. Derick recognized that the Group needs to work on the parameters for deflection testing. He thought it was appropriate to leave this explanation in the section as opposed to Appendix C. Also discussed was testing requirements and rigidity of a flexible shroud cover on inner cords. Similar to rigid shroud covers, these parameters would be explained in this section.

**VI. New Business**

The Group agreed to explore concepts on performance requirements of rigidity of the shroud. It was agreed these tests cannot only cover whether or not a hazardous loop would form.

**VII. Next meeting**

The group agreed to have a call on Tuesday, May 8 at 11:30 am.

**VIII. Adjourn**