

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

LOG OF MEETING

SUBJECT: ASTM Gates task group: Review of visual side pressure indicators proposal (for pressure-mounted gates)

DATE OF MEETING: 06 June 2018

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Carlos G. Torres, ESMC

LOCATION: Teleconference, 5 Research Place, Rockville, MD

**CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Hope Nesteruk, Carlos Torres, Lawrence Mella – ESMC
Jill Hurley, ESHF; Jill Jenkin, Econ**

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

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

This Task Group (TG) meeting was a follow up to the CPSC staff proposal of Side-Pressure Indicators (for pressure –mounted gates) presented at the January 23, 2018, and again discussed at May 1, 2018 subcommittee meetings.

Staff opened the discussion reiterating the importance of having side pressure indicators for pressure-mounted gates. Staff discussed in-house test results of how much variability exist in side pressure when installing pressure-mounted gates relaying only on manufacturer's instructions. For instance, staff presented the case where a metal gate had actual side-pressure measurements of 4 to 72 lbf (68 lbf difference) during the 25 test installations. Staff stated that if the gate had a side-pressure indicator that would inform the user the correct amount of pressure to set the gate to, in this case, 41 lbf, the gate would withstand the 30 lbf of push-out force CPSC is proposing (push out forces are very sensitive to the side pressure exerted onto the opening they are mounted on.)

Members of the task group raised the issue about walk-through gates with indicators, and if the latch indicator could be a dual-purpose indicator. There was general consensus on the task group that a dual-purpose indicator would be fine, as long as it was indicating that the gate was install in a way that passed the test.

After the discussion of dual-purpose indications, several task group members questioned the necessity of indicators and expressed opposition to the proposal stating, among other things, that their gates already comply with the current push-out requirement (10 lbf push-out force), that the incident data does not proof that there is an issue with installation, and that the their instructions

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

LOG OF MEETING

are good enough. Also, an ASTM member questioned staff side-pressure test results stating that for a gate to have that magnitude of variability the gate must have been a defective manufactured unit. To this argument, another ASTM member validated the need of CPSC staff proposal of indicators as a mean to alert the consumer that this gate, if truly defective, was a flawed unit.

Strong resistance persisted during the meeting which led the subcommittee to table the issue as no resolution was met. The side-pressure indicator proposal will be discussed again after the push-out force is resolved. Given the outcome of the TG meeting, ASTM members agreed to focus on the scheduled subcommittee meeting on August 2, 2018 where the results of the push-out force ballot F15 (18-06), will be discussed. (Ballot F15 (18-06) Item 2, proposed the increase of the push-out force from 10 to 15 lbf).