

MEETING LOG
Directorate for Engineering Sciences

PRODUCT: Treadmills

SUBJECT: Treadmill Standards from *ASTM F08.30 Fitness Products* and *UL 1647 - 6th Ed (2020) Motor-operated Massage and Exercise Machines*

LOCATION: Teleconference via WebEx

DATE: Wednesday May 12, 2021, 2:10-3:42pm ET

ENTRY DATE: Monday May 17, 2021

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Susan M. Bowley, Ph.D. Mechanical and Biomedical Engineer

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Susan M. Bowley, Ph.D., Caroleene Paul

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Joe Musso, UL Standards Program Manager, Appliances, Controls, HVAC, Lighting, Electric Tools & PFDs; Harv Voris, ASTM F08.30 Fitness Products

MEETING SUMMARY:

This was the first meeting held to start work on evaluation of existing gaps in ASTM and UL Standards related to treadmills in light of the recent Peloton Tread+ treadmill recall (May 5, 2021) and the CPSC letter to ASTM (dated April 26, 2021).

An historical overview of interactions between CPSC and ASTM F08.30 was provided by Mr. Voris. This overview indicated that the existing ASTM standards related to Treadmills (*F1749-15 Standard Specification for Fitness Equipment and Fitness Facility Safety Signage and Labels*, *F2276 Standard Specification for Fitness Equipment*, *F2115 Standard Specification for Motorized Treadmills*, *F2571 Standard Test Methods for Evaluating Design and Performance Characteristics of Fitness Equipment*) were initially developed when the CPSC contacted ASTM in 1997 and requested that ASTM develop standards to address treadmill incidents involving injuries in children.

Mr. Voris indicated that ASTM has not evaluated any hazards specific to “slat belt design” treadmills, which is the design for the Peloton Tread+ treadmill. He also indicated that one firm, Woodway, has had a “slat belt design” treadmill for a very long time. Mr. Voris indicated that the Woodway patents have recently run out

and therefore multiple other firms have started making treadmills with the “slat design”.

Mr. Musso indicated that the UL standard included evaluation of treadmill hazards since 1997, however he was not clear concerning the history of this standard related to current language and treadmill personal injury risks.

Discussion concerning potential gaps in the current standards was held. Plans for further discussion to fully evaluate these gaps will take place in a future meeting of all task group members, including “slat design” treadmill manufacturers such as Woodway.

Tasks for next steps from this meeting:

- Evaluate historical details concerning previous CPSC interactions related to treadmill standards development.
- Mr. Voris to provide a list of other firms which have the “slat treadmill design”, beyond Woodway (both current and historical).
- Mr. Musso will research when language related personal injury risks with treadmills was added to the UL standard and why this language came about.
- Both Mr. Voris and Mr. Musso will research documents related to historical updates to the current standards to detail technical updates specifically related to treadmills and risk of injury.
- The first meeting of the task group will determine what the current gaps are in the existing standards related to risk of injury for treadmills, both traditional “continuous belt design” and “slat belt design”.

Future meetings are planned to occur on a periodic basis to provide additional discussion, updates and feedback on progress for tasks noted above.