

Voluntary Standards Meeting Log

SUBJECT: ASTM F15.79 Beach Umbrellas (BU) Task Group

LOCATION: video conference

DATE OF MEETING: June 1, 2022

LOG ENTRY DATE: June 9, 2022

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Andy Newens (ESMC)

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Andy Newens (ESMC), Fred DeGrano (ESMC)

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

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

The Beach Umbrellas (BU) Task Group was formed by the ASTM F15.79 Market Umbrellas Subcommittee for the purpose of developing new BU safety standards and test methods. The primary hazard of concern stems from several incidents in which a fly-away BU seriously injured a beachgoer (including one death) after the wind pulled it out of the sand and sent it airborne.

In this meeting, the Task Group discussed the *Draft Standard Test Method for Evaluating Wind Safety and Durability of Beach Umbrellas*, which involves wind tunnel testing by the manufacturers to establish a wind rating for each BU. The group also reviewed another draft test plan proposed by CPSC staff, in coordination with TUV, which seeks to develop a performance requirement by having the task group do its own wind tunnel testing with an instrumented umbrella test fixture to determine the lift forces, vibration, and displacement of the umbrella shaft. The testing will help determine common ranges of forces that BUs with different size/shape canopies will need to withstand at different wind velocities.

Follow-up action steps are for CPSC and TUV to continue to refine their wind tunnel test setup and test procedures to share with the group at the next meeting. Future meeting dates are planned for the first Wednesday of each month, the next one being July 6, 2022.