

**LOG OF MEETING  
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES**

**SUBJECT:** ANSI – Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) A14 Committee Meeting –  
American Ladder Institute

**DATE OF MEETINGS:** March 21, 2023

**LOCATION:** Zurich North America, Schaumburg, IL

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** Thomas Caton

**COMMISSION ATTENDEE(S):** Thomas Caton (virtually)

**NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:** Contact ANSI - ASC A14 Committee for attendee list

**SUMMARY OF MEETING:**

**Background:** This was the semi-annual meeting of the ANSI ASC A14 Committee.

Label Task Force – The group continued their studies with revisions for standards, A14.3, A14.7, and A14.8 and await on the outcome of the evaluation of UL 969. It was indicated that UL 969 Standards for Marking and Labeling provides for products used indoors/outdoors or just indoors. For example, it was presented that the force requirement for applying a label differs between A14.2 and A14.8. It was suggested that a review of standard conformity may be needed. By next meeting, a letter ballot is planned for indoor/outdoor use after considering customer use. Presently, UL 969 is thought to be a “better” standard with four or five comments.

Task Force on Ladder Hand Placement-Rungs and Side Rails – The proposed language was not accepted on what is an approved handhold. The committee made a request for a final report for the Fall 2023 or Spring 2024 meeting.

Sub-committee A14.1 Wood Ladders - A new chair was selected to replace the retiring chair. Current revision is 2017 and next planned revision is 2024. There are at least two manufacturers of specialty wood ladders but no stepladders. San Francisco Fire Department uses specially made wood ladders but these are covered by a NFPA standard.

Sub-committee A14.2 Metal Ladders - Revisions of A14.2 Metal Ladders are almost ready for review. This revision is waiting for resolving UP 969 labeling test and cold impact, cold durability test of plastic parts.

Sub-committee A14.3 Fixed Ladders – Revisions are waiting to be balloted with A14.4 as this revision is ready for administrative review.

Sub-committee A14.4 Job-Made Wood Ladders – Two negative comments to be addressed for next revision and then ballot will be sent to A14 committee for approval of new ballot.

Sub-committee A14.5 Reinforced Plastic Ladders - Clarification of the required low temperature impact test location is needed.

Sub-committee A14.7 Mobile Ladder Stands & Platforms – The standard has been administratively withdrawn. This information has been updated on the American Ladder Institute website, ANSI on-line store, IHS, and Techstreet internet sites but still working with SAI Global.

Sub-committee A14.8 Accessories – The standard is scheduled for review by 2025. Current revision is dated 2020 and next revision is 2025 waiting on the outcome of the evaluation of UL 969.

Sub-committee A14.9 Disappearing Attic Stairways – The group is working of handrail testing used with stairways.

Sub-committee 14.11 Step Stools – This sub-committee will meet March 23, 2023, to discuss the testing requirements of this standard.

The tentative date for the next semi-annual ASC A14 Committee meeting is October 3, 2023. The meeting will continue to be a choice of in-person or virtual.

**Summary:** Overall, the planned revisions of the various ANSI A14 Ladder Standards that are to be done between 2023 and 2025 are on schedule. The A14 Committee plans in the future to revise just three standards a year and try to better adhere ANSI 5-year revision recommendation instead of looser revisions that have been occurring.