MEETING LOG

PRODUCT: Crib Mattress Sheets

SUBJECT: ASTM F15.19 Infant Bedding Crib Sheet Shrinkage Task Group

LOCATION: Teleconference

DATE: April 12, 2022

ENTRY DATE: April 22, 2022

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Daniel Taxier (ESMC)

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Daniel Taxier (ESMC), Emily Maling (LSE)

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Contact ASTM for a list of all attendees

MEETING SUMMARY:

The task group is developing performance requirements related to crib mattress fitted sheets. These performance requirements would be added to ASTM F1917-20e1 Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Infant Bedding and Related Accessories.

The task group leader began the meeting by discussing the purpose of the task group: to address crib mattress fitted sheets which are improperly sized or which have shrunk, and which can cause hazardous gaps to form between the mattress and the crib or bowing of the crib mattress. The task group then discussed how four properties can affect the size and performance of fitted sheets:

1. Dimensions of the crib mattress, including length, width, and pocket size.
2. Length of elastic used in the binding.
3. Strength of the elastic.
4. Shrinkage performance.

A task group member asked if the scope of the discussion was limited to fitted sheets, or if it would include mattress pads as well; the task group member mentioned being aware of a fatality associated with a mattress pad. The task group will focus on fitted sheets for now, but will consider mattress pads in future work. The task group requested more information on the fatality, if it was available.

A task group member mentioned that the Good Housekeeping Institute had previously made recommendations for a test protocol for fitted sheets. The test

would measure the force required to pull a fitted sheet off the mattress. This work led to labeling standards, but not performance requirements. The task group leader said he would re-review that work if a copy could be made available.

The task group leader described some market surveillance test data which included sheet dimensions and shrinkage properties. The testing found most sheets to have a typical length of 42 to 46 inches, with dimensional shrinkage of 2% to 8% depending on the sheet material and whether it was pre-shrunk. CPSC staff asked if a version of the data could be made available to the task group; the task group leader responded that he thought it could be shared after removing manufacturer and brand information. Staff also encouraged the task group to consider requirements which would incorporate the possibility that consumers could wash and dry using the highest heat settings, regardless of instructions. The task group agreed to consider this.

The task group leader will begin drafting requirements for fitted crib mattress sheets, which may include a reference to AATCC 150 Test Method for Dimensional Changes of Garments after Home Laundering. A call was put out for interested individuals to volunteer to help.

The next task group meeting will occur during the Juvenile Product Subcommittee Meeting week, scheduled to take place May 23 through May 25, 2022 at ASTM Headquarters in West Conshohocken, PA.