

## **Voluntary Standards Meeting Log**

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

**LOCATION:** video conference

**DATE OF MEETING:** January 4, 2023

**LOG ENTRY DATE:** January 10, 2023

**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. There currently are no established safety standards for sand-mounted BUs. The primary hazard of concern stems from several incidents in which a fly-away BU seriously injured a beachgoer (including two deaths) after the wind pulled it out of the sand and sent it airborne.

The Task Group discussed remaining testing needed to develop a BU performance standard. CPSC staff stated that they are still making progress on plans to perform wind tunnel testing, which will potentially be scheduled to occur in the next two months. Other members of the group proposed alternative testing methods which can complement CPSC's sand-based tests and wind tunnel tests. These can all add to the body of data that will support the performance standard. Furthermore, the group discussed the need for the performance standard to avoid being a design standard, so that market-based innovation can be free to meet the performance standard in multiple ways. Lastly, staff reiterated the importance of incorporating sand into the voluntary standard to account for the degradation of anchor strength over time.

Follow-up action steps are for members of the Task Group to perform testing and contribute additional data to what has been provided by CPSC staff. CPSC staff will put together a detailed test plan and provide it to the Task Group for discussion/comments in advance of the wind tunnel tests. The next virtual Task Group meeting is planned for February 1, 2023.