United States
Consumer Product Safety Commission

MEETING LOG

SUBJECT: ASTM F15.12 Firmness and Breathability of Juvenile Products Subcommittee Meeting

FY 25 OP PLAN ENTRY: Infant Bedding

DATE OF MEETING: 6/13/2025

LOCATION OF MEETING: Virtual

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Daniel Taxier (ESMC)

FILING DATE: 6/23/2025

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Daniel Taxier (ESMC), Suad Wanna-Nakamura (HSPP), Timothy Smith (ESHF)

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

Summary of Meeting:

This subcommittee is developing standard test methods related to characterizing firmness and breathability of juvenile products.

The subcommittee discussed how to resolve the remaining negatives on the latest ballot item for the firmness measurement method that uses a test stand. The subcommittee chair proposed that the ballot item be withdrawn and to let the test method continue to be developed in ASTM F3669 – 24 *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Nursing Pillows*. Other participants discussed their agreement, since no other product standards were being developed that use the method. The subcommittee voted to withdraw the ballot item.

The subcommittee then discussed the formation of new task groups focused on developing test methods for firmness and concavity, airflow, and carbon dioxide rebreathing. The task groups are expected to meet as needed before the next subcommittee meeting. CPSC staff is participating in each task group.

A member of the subcommittee then gave a presentation reviewing the concavity test proposed by staff.[1] The member provided some comments and feedback, which will continue to be discussed at future task group meetings, including:

- The top of the template could be replaced with a handle.
- The thickness of the template could be adjusted.
- The positioning of the hinged gauge can affect whether a product passes or fails.
- Harness restraint straps may contribute to failures.
- Keeping the template normal to the hinged gauge may be difficult, and this can influence test results.
- Small wrinkles and stitching can influence test results.

[1] See staff's letter dated April 28, 2025: https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/Letter-ASTM-F15-12-Subcommittee-April-2025_0.pdf?VersionId=dZckEJatv.oJb0TVdM.GFaXGljlohw4i.

The participants also discussed challenges associated with applying the test method to car seats that are handheld infant carriers; in particular, modifying car seats to meet the proposed concavity test could result in less head support for side impact protection. Staff clarified that the proposal is not intended to be adopted in car seats in which it could contribute to a greater risk of injuries during a car crash.

Next Steps:

Task group meetings are expected to be scheduled before the next subcommittee meeting. The subcommittee is expected to meet during the next ASTM juvenile product meeting week, November 3 through November 5, 2025.