

F15 Meetings April 11-14, 2011

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April 11, 2011

Changing Tables

Discussed changing tables that span the top rails of a full size crib; propose to add reference to F 406 and a F 1169 to make sure that the changing table cannot be lifted and strangle a child.

Is a requirement is needed for the manufacturer to list all of the types of cribs that their product will fit? If so, that will need to be on the packaging and in instructions.

Task group also to consider the protrusions/possible catch points to keep these from being on an accessory changing table. Needs to address the ends and sides so that in mis-assembly situations, the product has no protrusions.

Reviewed changes to language to clarify "changing surfaces" and "changing pads". No substantive changes made to the intent of the standard, but this work will fix some potentially confusing language.

Bedrails

Review of recent ballot results. Negatives received on the mis-assembly ballot.

Hammocks

Task group's new additions to the draft standard were reviewed. The task group to do more testing and refining of the standard in these areas where comments were discussed.

Cribs

It was voted to remove the retightening allowance from the ASTM standard to make it identical to CFR 1219. This passed and will be balloted. Once it goes through revision, the ASTM standard will be identical *in substance* to our standard (though our standard references an earlier version with some modifications).

Toehold/Adjacent Side Discussion – Looking to clarify the language of the standard dealing with the two adjacent sides and climbing out with toe holds.

There are a couple of things that were in CFR1509 that didn't get "transferred" to the ASTM standard. ASTM is going to go ahead and ballot those things to get them added to the next version of the ASTM standard.

The first issue affects both full-size and non-full-size cribs and relates to the cut outs requirements. In 1508 and 1509, there are certain ways to test a cutout and one of the methods was accidentally left out of the pass fail criteria outlined in the ASTM standards, when they were re-written to encompass everything from 1508 or 1509.

The other issue is potentially an editorial change. It deals with the dimensions of what is or isn't a full size crib.

Staff raised the idea of having a separate meeting during the ASTM committee weeks where interpretation issues of new CPSC standards are discussed. No decisions or interpretations would be declared during that meeting, but it would be more of a working group between CPSC staff, test labs, JPMA folks (manufacturers) to discuss some of these issues that come up and get input from all stakeholders to help us make an interpretation.

Play Yards

Reviewed the ballot results and the negatives/comments.

New Business – CFR 1508 and 1509 contain requirements that did not get transferred to the ASTM standards. Thus, these are now not contained in the new standard. The two issues deal with the cutouts requirement tests.

And also specific language of the dimensions of the crib.

Sections 1.5 and 3.15 still reference drop-side, should they be removed?

Force required to remove the instructional pouch is 30# for non-full size and only #15 for full size. Is there a reason?

Baby Monitors

Discussion regarding the need for a new standard. UL deals with electrical issues and the hazard we would be addressing regards strangulation from the cords. This meeting is to determine whether or not there is a full need for a new standard under ASTM to deal with the mechanical hazards. Task group to look into it.

Tuesday April 12, 2011

Beside Sleepers

Review of ballot results for the draft standard. Non-persuasive negatives and comments only.

One of the major issues raised was increasing the force required for the product disengagement test which is one of the major requirements for the standard. The draft will be re-balloted with a 50 pound force requirement.

Infant Bedding

The tie strength test ballot results were reviewed. Negatives were received dealing with the proposed 18 pound force for bumper ties.

Exponent presented findings from research on hazardousness of crib bumpers. ISS did a study last year and asked Exponent to review that study, funded by JPMA and they concluded that presence of bumper pads does not increase the risk of infant mortality in a study of 144 published articles on sleeping environments. Discussion followed.

Commercial Cribs

Discussion of revisions to bring standard into alignment with the new federal regulations. Discussion of the reference to the Health Canada shaker test method in 5.5; suggest to delete the whole test because it is already in the CFR 1219 and 1220. Other discrepancies noted as well.

Task group report on the child care evacuation crib exception. Proposed language to clarify the types of cribs that are specifically not intended for evacuation. A label is required to make this class of cribs.

Strollers

Staff reviewed hazard scenarios/incident data for consideration with regard to revising the standard.

Infant Swings

New version of the standard published 3/11, named version 11a.

New business is a discussion of non-traditional swing movement, like oscillations, figure eights, waves, kangaroo bounces, or transverse arcs. Chair showed video examples. The question was how such products would be tested for stability. Deferred to a task group to make suggestions.

Gates and Enclosures

Ballot review; one negative received about the orientation of the test block used for the load testing. Ballot was supposed to reflect that issue, but was accidentally left out. Agreed to send it back out to ballot with the corrected wording. Also, comments with typos were addressed so those will be changed as well.

Task group on injuries to older children and adults: requested information from manufacturers about variables in gate design. Task group will collect responses to try to get a better idea of why these injuries are occurring.

Task group for unbounded openings and edges: Chair reports some confusion on what is the "uppermost edge." The definition may need clarification.

Wednesday April 13, 2011

Toddler Beds

The new CPSC standard was reviewed and compared to the ASTM standard. Noted differences include the warning label dealing with mattress size. Since many toddler beds are conversion products from cribs, they will need to meet both standards, but the labels are different.

Ballot results reviewed – Ballot was for a minimum guard rail height of 9”.

Bassinets

The 2011 version of the standard should be approved May 1st and available for review soon after that. It has many changes over the last version.

The NPR for the new safety standard will be re-proposed in late summer 2011. The issues that still need to be worked on are as follows:

- 1) Mattress Flatness; assessing the angle in the 2011 standard (14 degrees).
- 2) Rock/Swing Angle; ballot results from Fall 2010 had a persuasive negative vote dealing with the wording and the position of the CAMI during the test.
- 3) Fabric Test Method; ballot results from Fall 2010 had a persuasive negative vote dealing with the definition of “removable cover” and the lack of a definition for “occupant retention area.”
- 4) Exclude hammocks or other inclined sleeping products from the scope.
- 5) Review the suffocation warnings and redo them.
- 6) Mattress thickness. For rigid products, can this be relaxed to 2” or a specified foam density?
- 7) New side height requirement. Needs to be done in concert with mattress thickness.

The NPR task group will be looking into each of these issues. An interim meeting in early June was suggested for this group.

Walkers

Tip testing. There have been some problems with running the test on certain models. Task group was set up to re-evaluate.

There is an outstanding ballot to revise the standard to align it with the federal standard. So far no negatives have come in.

Bath Seat Meeting

New standard should be ready for approval or publication soon.

Review of incident data.

Proposed Revisions –

- 1) Change the stability test by eliminating the word “smooth” as a descriptor for the test platform, to deal with the dis-continuation of the bath tub specified as the test platform. Also will remove the back ledge dimension of the tub on the drawing, because it doesn’t matter with respect to the test and restricts the possible tubs to purchase to only one.
- 2) The standard will also add a note about the soap mixture noting that it can be made by hand as well as purchased through the company indicated.

Those items to go to ballot.

Bath Tub Meeting

Review of incident data.

Discussion regarding a change of definition for infant bath tub.

Discussion of the upright tubs (pods/bucket style tubs) and how they relate to an infant tub.

Retail packaging question came up. What constitutes a retail packaging for online sales? Are requirements the same? An Ad Hoc task group to work on this issue.

Crib Mattresses

Reviewed the draft standard.

Warnings recommendations (the warnings have been recommended by three groups and this is stated before the actual warnings). Discussions regarding whether or not this recommendation language is needed. Voted and kept in.

Looking at Stage 2 work – dealing with mattress height, crown height, and cross sectional dimensions.

Thursday April 14, 2011

Bouncers

Review of ballot from Nov 2011 but there was one negative and it was found to be non-persuasive but a follow up ballot was never sent out. It pertains to the toy bar test and it will be sent out.

Changing the name of the standard to be inclusive of non-bouncing seats that have the same age user (0-6 months of age). How to exclude hand held carriers so that they are not in the scope? Or inclined sleeping products? Or rockers that have kick stands that make it stationary. Additional recommended changes to be vetted thru the task group and then sent out to ballot.

Incident data reviewed, falls from elevated surfaces was the biggest area. After much discussion a task group was set up to look at the warning and the stability.

Stationary Activity Centers

Discussed incident data and a task group was established to review it.

Hand Held Carriers

Strangulation Issue – relates to the chest clip used on car seats. Children napping in car seats without the crotch buckled can strangle on the chest clip. EC44 (European car seat standard) has a requirement that says the restraints must be released with one action, thus they don't use chest clips. Australia allows them but has a force requirement. Consider a maximum force for a chest clip to slide? The group

is hesitant to change any requirements for fear that the repercussions could cause more deaths of children in car accidents. Considering stronger warnings or a new placement for them and more dedication to educate the public as to the hazard.

Fall Data – Shopping Cart falls. Warnings already there – and task group to continue working on this issue.

Handle Issues – Run more tests and have manufacturers run them as well.

Handle Hardware – screws backing out. Evenflo has an internal test that they are willing to share as a consideration. Also maybe a lateral pull test to deal with stripping of the screws.

Consider exclusion of products that are carriers and bassinets (lying flat) because those are not allowed to have restraints.

Booster Seats

Ballot results for the change to the static load test (no more 6 x 6 block, but a steel shot bag). No negatives – just comments which are about typos and will be corrected.

Slings

Review of ballot results and many comments and negatives. It will have to go back out to ballot again after another revision.

High Chairs

Review ballot results dealing with restraints requirements – i.e., they are attached at time of sale at the location for use. Many negatives reviewed.

New Business – Look at the recent recalls – shouldn't the standard be revised to address the recalls.

Children's Folding Chairs

Stability requirements task group shared proposed revisions to the proposed test method. Will be sending it out to ballot.

Ballot to address scope change to include other products was not sent to ballot, but will be before the next meeting.