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**LOG OF MEETING  
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES**

SUBJECT: ASTM F15 meetings on Juvenile Products

DATE OF MEETING: February 28 – March 2, 2000

PLACE OF MEETING: Orlando, Florida

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Mark Kumagai, ESME *M.K.*

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Mark Kumagai

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Available upon receipt of minutes

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

**2-28-2000 Bassinets/Cradles**

This is a new standard that is being developed by the subcommittee. The subcommittee voted to apply a minimum 54-lb. static load on the bassinet or cradle, or 3 times the weight of the maximum intended user, whichever is greater. The subcommittee discussed the need for a stability test based on an applied external force to the product. This method would simulate a sibling outside of the product pulling or pushing it over. One manufacturer stated that his company uses caster wheels on their bassinets to minimize tip over due to a sibling pushing or pulling on the product. The use of wheels would allow the bassinet/cradle to roll instead of tip. He stated that his company's test for stability is to apply a 45-lbf downward force on the top side surface. Using input from this discussion, the task group will continue to work on a stability test.

The subcommittee agreed to include a requirement for mattress fit based on the federal requirement for non-full size cribs. The subcommittee agreed to restrict the use of wood screws to fasten components that require disassembly and assembly to set up, store or transport the product. The subcommittee requested CPSC staff to review the warnings, develop a warning to address suffocation and review the 5-inch minimum side height. Two members volunteered to develop draft sleep position recommendations for the use in the instructions.

**2-28-2000 Toddler Beds**

The subcommittee discussed the use and rationale for the probe (fish probe) to check partially bounded openings. Two manufacturers used the probe to test the partially bounded openings in their products and determined that this was a satisfactory test method. The subcommittee chairman will redraft test method and distribute it to the subcommittee for review. The subcommittee discussed the difficulty of finding the test mattress specified in section 7.1. A proposal to add a compressed load deflection (CLD) value for test mattress was suggested. One member volunteered to develop these specification criteria.

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### **2-28-2000 Walkers**

A revised walker standard is currently in the ASTM Committee on Standards for review and should be in publication shortly. The revisions include additional procedures for the stair fall test to improve test repeatability. The subcommittee formed a task group to develop a warning for friction strip inspection and maintenance included on product and in the instructions.

### **2-28-2000 Portable Bed Rails**

The subcommittee addressed three negatives and comments on the ballot for a warning label on bed rails. Based on the negatives and comments, the following addition were agreed upon by the subcommittee.

- Add warning on product - install with at least 9 inch spacing between head and footboard.
- Add warning on product - always keep the bed rail pushed firmly against the mattress.
- Add "blatant misuse" language to introduction.

The standard goes to re-ballot.

The subcommittee withdrew the ballot on performance requirements and requested a meeting with the CPSC staff. The subcommittee members expressed concern that the 50-lbf pull out force specified in the draft performance standard may introduce additional hazard if the bedrail is improperly installed leaving a hazardous gap. CPSC staff suggested that each member formalize their concerns in writing and discuss them with the CPSC staff during the meeting at CPSC headquarters.

### **2-29-00 Hand Held Infant Carriers**

The subcommittee reviewed the results of the Tri-level ballot. 3 negatives were found persuasive and one negative was found non-persuasive. The persuasive negatives addressed inconsistencies in the standard such as references to test procedures that were not applicable to the product. These negatives did not effect the performance requirements for the handle/latch and the slip resistance.

Three of the negative voters offered to clean up the standard to address the negatives by March 14. The CPSC staff will rewrite labeling requirements by March 14. A new draft will be reviewed by subcommittee between March 14 - 28. A conference call with the subcommittee will be held on March 28 to finalize the changes. The draft standard will then go to ASTM for re-ballot.

### **2-29-00 Soft and Frame Infant Carriers**

A new subcommittee chairman was introduced for the development of this new standard. The subcommittee reviewed a draft introduction. The purpose of the standard would be to address incidents of falls out of front and backpack carriers. The subcommittee discussed product design and a breakdown of the incident data. A task group was formed including manufacturers and the CPSC staff. The task group agreed to meet in April examine products and to better understand the hazard pattern and failure modes.

### **2-29-00 Infant Swings**

The subcommittee reviewed negatives and comments to the subcommittee ballot. One negative on the warning label was found persuasive. The subcommittee agreed to require a warning label to inform the consumer to discontinue using the swing when a child becomes too active and may be able to climb out of the swing (approximately 6-month of age). A label on the swing will require the manufacturer's full mailing address or a toll free telephone number for the consumer to obtain instructions. The standard will be re-balloted, at the subcommittee and main committee level.

### **2-29-00 Gates and Enclosures**

The subcommittee discussed the results of the round robin push-out force tests. A wide range of forces were measured per gate design and doorway dimension. Rationale for the 30-lbf push-out force requirement was discussed. The subcommittee accepts 30-lbf as the minimum push-out force for pressure gates intended for use at the top of stairs. If the gate cannot meet the 30 lbf push-out force level, a warning label will be required stating, "never use at the top of steps." Horizontal push-out force requirements will be balloted at the subcommittee level.

### **3-1-00 Infant Bedding**

The subcommittee addressed comments to the ballot on the fitted sheet warning label. One comment was to identify the mattress size for the crib sheet on the warning label. The crib sheet manufacturers said that they do provide this information on the packaging. All of the negatives were withdrawn, and the standard goes to the ASTM Committee on Standards for review.

CPSC staff presented incident reports that identified top or bottom bumper ties. The subcommittee requested the CPSC staff for additional information on bumper ties. The CPSC's Safe Nursery publication recommends consumers to purchase bumpers with top and bottom ties. The subcommittee requested rationale for this recommendation. JPMA will determine if the majority of bumpers are produced with top and bottom or top only ties.

The subcommittee discussed cribs with canopy drapes and requested the CPSC staff to provide IDI 990218HCC2284, 990316CCC0345. CPSC staff presented the results of an incident data search on chenille threads pulling out of bedding products. No incidents or complaints were found. The subcommittee discussed the manufacturer's fitted sheet test results and test difficulties such as test result variance. The task group will continue to develop the fitted sheet test procedure. The subcommittee reviewed the CPSC's letter requesting a warning label on comforters, quilts and other soft bedding. The subcommittee suggested a consumer information and education effort instead of a warning label. The subcommittee requested the CPSC staff to provide data to determine if incidents occurred in an adult or infant quilt or comforter.

### **3-1-00 Play yards**

The subcommittee discussed a previous negative where the voter was aware of incidents of a child suffocating under the fold-up pad and use of non-full size crib mattresses in play yards. CPSC staff provided summaries of these incidents, however one of the reports contained photographs that were not distinguishable. CPSC staff will obtain the original reports and provide the subcommittee with better copies.

A task group was formed to address incidents where the consumer placed an additional mattress into play yard and incidents where the child suffocated under the mattress pad. The task group will examine:

1. Pad thickness/firmness
2. Mattress and play yard size
3. Mattress pad attachment

A new protrusions performance test requirement was accepted by subcommittee and will go to subcommittee ballot. The subcommittee is drafting a harmonized play yard and non-full size crib standard. The most significant difference is that the play yard warning to never leave a child unattended in the play yard is not required for non-full size. The subcommittee chairman requested members to comment in writing on the proposed draft.

### **3-1-00 Bath Seats**

The CPSC staff updated the incident report since the last meeting. CPSC staff is aware of 65 incidents resulting in drowning from 1/83-2/00. The subcommittee chairman requested CPSC to compare bathtub versus bath seat drowning. A subcommittee member made a motion to require a water level mark on the product. Several members believed that this might prevent drowning. The majority of the subcommittee did not believe that this would prevent drowning. Some felt that it might give the consumer a false sense of security that the child is in a safe water depth and can be left alone. The motion was voted down. The subcommittee approved for ballot, a draft latching and locking mechanism requirements. The subcommittee approved for ballot, a draft suction cup performance requirement.

### **3-1-00 Stationary Activity Centers**

The draft standard is in ASTM Committee on Standards for review before publication. The subcommittee approved for ballot, a draft limited motion test requirement for open base stationary activity centers.

### **3-1-00 Carriages and Strollers**

The subcommittee discussed draft holes/slot requirements to prevent finger entrapment. Proposed changes will allow for ribbing. The hole requirements are more stringent than for toys, and the subcommittee agreed to keep the draft as is. A subcommittee member request CPSC to search for incidents involving stand-on tandem strollers. A member presented fall data on strollers, high chairs and shopping carts based on the CPSC's injury data. He requested the subcommittee to consider child resistant buckles. One manufacturer currently uses child resistant buckles. Many subcommittee members believe that the majority of falls out of strollers are due to improper use of restraints or the child wiggles free from the restraint. The CPSC staff reminded the subcommittee that the presenter has petitioned the CPSC to develop child restraint requirements. This was announced in the Federal Register and comments are due to CPSC by March 6, 2000.

### **3-2-00 Bouncers**

This is a new standard that is being developed by the subcommittee. The subcommittee reviewed of task group proposals for structural integrity, forward stability and dynamic slip resistance. A 33 lbf, 100-cycle drop test onto the bouncer was accepted as the dynamic structural integrity test. The subcommittee rejected a 10-lbf forward pull test for stability and

request task group to develop a lean-out simulation. The subcommittee reviewed the incident data and decided that the youngest user that could bounce in the seat was a 4-month-old child. The subcommittee request the task group to refine the proposed dynamic slip resistance test to simulate a 4-month old child bouncing in the product. The subcommittee accepted a 15-lbf joint pull force requirements and request the task group to evaluate additional use and abuse 3 ft. drop test.

### **3-2-00 High Chairs**

The subcommittee reviewed proposed revisions to clarify the restraint requirements. The requirements for youth chairs were reworded, "Restraints systems are not required for an occupant that can get in and out unassisted." A member presented his request for child resistant buckle (see carriage/stroller summary).