

**LOG OF MEETING  
SMALL BUSINESS OMBUDSMAN**

ACCEPTED BY  
KULEMAN  
WITNESSED

**SUBJECT:** Introductory Meeting between the American Home Furnishings Alliance (AHFA) and the Small Business Ombudsman

**DATE OF MEETING:** September 15, 2011

**PLACE OF MEETING:** CPSC, Bethesda Towers, Rm 715

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** Neal S. Cohen, Small Business Ombudsman

**DATE OF LOG ENTRY:** September 16, 2011

**COMMISSION ATTENDEES:** Neal S. Cohen, Small Business Ombudsman

**NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:**  
Bill Perdue, American Home Furnishings Alliance  
Mary Martha McNamara, McNamara & L'Heureux,  
P.C.

**SUMMARY OF MEETING:**

After attending a prior public meeting with Kristina Hatlelid concerning the construction and composition of composite wood products that could be used in children's products, Neal Cohen continued to meet with Mr. Perdue and Ms. McNamara for a general introduction to learn more about AHFA, its members, and the issues facing the home furnishings industry.

**ASTM F15.21 on Infant Carriers, Bouncers and Baby Swings**  
**Phone Conference Log – 8/8/2011**

**Participants:**

Ian Hall – CPSC

Jan Carlson – CPSC

Rick McCallion – CPSC

ASTM F15.21 sub-committee (Clair Arsenault, Chicco USA/Artsana USA, Chair)

**Meeting Goal:**

The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the ASTM F15.21 sub-committee to the potential changes to ASTM F2088 - 11a *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Swings* being considered by CPSC staff, prior to any rulemaking related to infant swings. This meeting was requested by CPSC staff.

**Summary:**

At the beginning of the meeting, Ian Hall of CPSC stated that the statements made by CPSC staff may not represent the views of the Commission.

Mr. Hall first listed the sections of ASTM F 2088-11a to which the CPSC staff is considering changes, and then explained staff's current reasoning with regard to each potential change. He stated that the list did not include minor verbiage updates and clarifications. All participants had an opportunity to ask questions about and/or discuss each of the staff's suggestions. Attendees asked about staff's timeframe, and requested that suggested changes be shared in written form. The subcommittee chair noted that three items are expected to be balloted in near future.

Mr. Hall first presented a potential change regarding the static load test; the intent of the change would be to improve seat stability by requiring stability without the aid of removable accessories, like trays. There was some discussion of test logistics, and interplay with present requirement for 5-point harness on certain swing models.

Mr. Hall next presented a potential change to the requirements for passive crotch restraints; the intent of the change would be to replace subjective geometric requirement with a quantitative force requirement in order to reduce the need for interpretation and also reduce lab-to-lab variation. Attendees discussed test logistics, and there was at least one suggestion for making the change in a way that would reduce both text complexity and any need for additional instrumentation.

The third potential change described by Mr. Hall concerns a stalled-motor requirement, very similar to the stalled-motor requirement in F 963-08 (ASTM toy safety standard).

Mr. Hall also described a potential change to the dynamic load test procedure which would increase the required number of cycles.

The fifth potential change presented by Mr. Hall concerned updating the wording of the stability test to account for new swing designs. There was discussion concerning how best to change this part of the standard to account for the evolving swing market, and the subcommittee chair noted that this is the subject of one of the anticipated ballots.

Mr. Hall then described a potential addition to the mobile test, which would test mobile attachment strength from a wider range of angles than the current test. There were questions clarifying the test staff suggested, discussion of alternative test methods, and a suggestion that a manufacturer might intentionally design a swing mobile to detach when presented with a relatively small amount of horizontal force.

Finally, Mr. Hall presented a suggestion from staff to update the seat back angle measurement test to reduce test-to-test variability and limit interaction with positioning accessories. There was some discussion about alternative test methods, and the subcommittee chair noted that the subcommittee is in the process of organizing a task group to study changes to this part of the standard.