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LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Meetings of ASTM Subcommittee F08.53 - Headgear

DATE OF MEETING: December 9-10, 1998

PLACE: Opryland Hotel,
Nashville TN

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Scott Heh, ESME *SH*

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Scott Heh, ESME

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Available upon receipt of meeting minutes.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Summaries of subcommittee discussions and actions are shown below under the individual standard efforts.

ASTM Standard F 1446 - Standard Test Methods for Equipment and Procedures Used in Evaluating the Performance Characteristics of Protective Headgear.

A revision to clarify the text and figures that specify impact anvils was approved on the main committee ballot.

Task groups were established to examine possible new tests for upward and downward visual clearance. Another task group is working on a "clean-up" of the standard to examine items like proper tolerances and consistency of format with accompanying standards.

ASTM Standard F1447 Standard Specification for Protective Headgear Used in Bicycling

The group discussed a subcommittee ballot item that proposed revisions that would "harmonize" the ASTM bike helmet standard with the CPSC mandatory bicycle helmet standard. A number of revisions were accepted on the subcommittee ballot and will move forward to a main committee ballot.

After discussion, the subcommittee agreed that the ASTM standard does not necessarily have to "match" the CPSC standard in all respects. However, care should be taken that the ASTM standard will be interpreted at least as stringent as the CPSC standard.

A subcommittee ballot item was approved that would not allow helmets to have labels that claim conformance only to selected portions of an ASTM headgear standard. The provision will move forward to a main committee ballot.

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ASTM Standard F1163-97 Standard Specification for Protective Headgear Used in Horse Sports and Horseback Riding

The addition of a roll-off requirement was approved on the main committee ballot. The item will move on for final approval by ASTM for revision to the standard.

ASTM Standard F1492-97 Standard Specification for Protective Headgear Used in Skateboarding and Freestyle Roller Skating

A revision was approved on the main committee ballot that changed the word and scope from "freestyle" to "trick" roller skating. Revisions were also approved to add a roll-off requirement and to make corrections to the impact test line.

Skiing Helmets

The group discussed negative votes received on a main committee ballot for a new standard for headgear used in recreational snow skiing. Items of discussion included, the need for testing in a hot temperature environment, multiple impact tests on a single point on the helmet, benefits of a 2 meter drop height vs. a 1.5 meter drop height, and the need for a sharp hazard anvil impact.

The subcommittee agreed that there are enough outstanding issues that a new task group should be formed that includes members of ASTM Committee F27 on snow skiing. A new task group chairman was also appointed. The task group was directed to resolve the contentious issues and prepare another proposed standard for subcommittee ballot.

Other items

A task group is continuing to gather information to examine the need for a standard for rodeo helmets.

A task group is continuing to work on the development of a new standard for roller hockey helmets.

cc

Colin Church, EXHR
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