LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Meeting of ASTM Subcommittee F15.09 for Home Playground Equipment

DATE OF MEETING: September 28, 1994    PLACE: ASTM Headquarters, Philadelphia, PA

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: John Preston, ESME

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: John Preston, ESME

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Teresa Hendy, Site Masters
Paul Brogan, Hedstrom
Arie Frankel, Am. Playtime
Lindsey Harris, Fisher-Price
Jeff Lipko, Inchcape Testing
Joe Wilkerson, Roadmaster
Chuck Obendorf, Step 2
Mat Bolland, Newco, Inc.
David Dick, ACTS Testing Labs.
Reg. Ghosh, Health Canada
Frank Hunnewell, Child Life, Inc.
Jean Schappet, Woodset, Inc.
Jery Lynch, Little Tikes
Ron Lynn, Gym-N-I Playgrounds

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Discussion began on the applicability of the ASTM F1148 standard to plastic indoor/outdoor products. During this discussion the question was asked "What does CPSC want covered by the F1148 standard?" To resolve this question, David Dick (ACTS Testing Labs.) was appointed to chair a working group to define which products should be included within the F1148 standard.

Teri Hendy, chairman of Subcommittee F15.09, introduced a discussion on a requirement for protrusions that may present a strangulation hazard. She suggested that the F1148 standard should incorporate the same requirements that are in the F1487 standard for Public Playground Equipment. Manufacturers of home playground equipment stated that they would like to determine the impact of this suggestion on their products before agreeing to incorporate the requirements in the F1148 standard. The chairman said she would rewrite the requirements to address vertical protrusions and those at the entry to slides.

In a discussion of a new test for swing hangers, there were questions on whether the test weight simulating each occupant should be reduced according to the number of occupant positions on the swing. A manufacturer offered to draft a proposal.

On the subject of whether all swing sets should be anchored, manufacturers were divided on the need for such a requirement. It was finally agreed that swing sets meeting a stability test need not be anchored. The test will require 100 Ib in each occupant position and be conducted on a 5° slope.
A manufacturer volunteered to draft a stability requirement for free standing slides intended for younger children.

Copies of a draft statement regarding the use of resilient surfacing under home playground equipment prepared by CPSC staff were distributed. It was noted that the draft did not address the extent which such surfacing should project beyond the perimeter of the equipment. Several members were of the opinion that homeowners would not heed a suggestion to extend the material 6 feet beyond the perimeter of stationary equipment and two times the height of the hangers in front of and to the rear of swings. John Preston was asked to attempt to determine where serious and debilitating injuries occur during falls from backyard equipment.

In a discussion on the length of the transition area at the top of slides, Preston was asked to provide the rationale for the current requirement of 10 inches.

Members were asked to review the entire F1148 standard and determine if there were superfluous requirements that could be deleted. Members were also requested to review the rationale.

The labeling requirements from the F1487 standard will be balloted for inclusion in the F1148 standard.

The next meeting of ASTM F15.09 Subcommittee will be on January 11, 1995 and will be followed by a meeting of the F15.29 Subcommittee on January 12th & 13th.