LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Meeting of ASTM Subcommittee F15.29 for Public Playground Equipment

DATE OF MEETING: Sept. 11-12, 1996 PLACE: ASTM Headquarters West Conshohocken, PA

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: John Preston, ES

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: John Preston, ES

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:
Roger Amorosi, DTL
Matt Bolland, Swing-N-Slide
Betsy Caesar, Playcare
James Druck, Play Environments
Jack Gonzenbach, Miracle
Mike Hayward, Little Tikes
Teri Hendy, Site Masters
Tom Williams, LA Steelcraft
Scott Burton, Safety Play
Tom Kalousek, Rockford Pk. Dis.
Robert Leathers, Leathers Co.
Mike Mullins, Child's Factory
Jeff Olson, Kompan
Robert Pepper, Childworks
Jean Schappet, Woodset
Elaine Sherman, Parity, Inc.
Donna Thompson, U. of N. Iowa
Dana Wiser, Community Play
Marzy Sykes, Please Touch Me
Tracy Theems, Kompan
Margorie Brickley, ITS-RAM
Libby Ungvary, ECELS/AAP
Randy Watermiler, Landscape
Kert Artwick, Game Time
Jay Blanke, Sportsplay Equip't
Curtis Cleveland, Playworld
Bill Duffy, NSSEA/PEMA
Esther Grossman, Custom Play
Walt Henderson, Carlisle
Paul Hogan, Play Clearinghouse
Marylou Iverson, Iverson Assoc.
Mogans Jensen, Kompan
Peter Kells, Henderson Rec.
Leonard Lucenko, Montclair Univ.
Tom Norquist, Game Time
Kevin Owens, Playworld
Darryl Rarich, Playworld
Barry Segal, Leathers & Assoc.
Robert Stluka, Miracle
Fran Wallach, Total Recreation
Marcia Rogers, Consumer
Michael Krygier, DTL
Paul Danforth, Kompan
Daniel Stool, ITS-RAM
Kelley Hayes, Leathers Co.

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

September 11th

The chairman reported that she had contacted the ASTM fencing subcommittee and requested that they look at the safety of fences around playgrounds. She also stated that she had requested the F15 Main Committee to establish the under two years of age task group as a separate subcommittee.

John Preston reported that the CPSC staff will make some revisions to the CPSC Handbook for Public Playground Safety during 1991. He said that his personal goal is to eliminate any differences between the Handbook and the proposed North American
Standard. Preston announced that a playground safety roundtable meeting would be held at CPSC on October 16th. He also said that there would be a CPSC news release regarding lead in paint on playground equipment prior to the roundtable meeting.

It was reported that the IPEMA playground equipment certification program is up and running and nine manufacturers have signed up. IPEMA is looking towards the establishment of a similar program for playground surfacing materials.

An updated draft of the North American Standard (NAS) was distributed, and the working groups were asked to review appropriate sections. In a review of the NAS by the entire subcommittee, an exclusion was added for soft contained play equipment. It was noted that the age of the minimum user in the NAS is 18 months as compared to two years in the current ASTM standard. A motion was approved to accept the 18-month minimum user age for the ASTM standard. It was also agreed to specify that the SI units throughout the standard would be regarded as the prime units.

The subcommittee then broke into the working groups for review of appropriate sections of the draft NAS.

**September 12th**

Highlights in working group reports follow:

The issue of whether there should be specific no encroachment zones has yet to be resolved.

Tack rides will be "Not recommended for children under 5 years of age."

Recommendations for cable rides will be added to the ASTM standard.

A motion was approved to allow fall zones for adjacent stationary play structures over 30 inches in height to overlap but the structures may never be less than 9 feet apart.

A motion was made to change the fall zone to the front and rear of single-axis swings to a minimum of X + 6 feet where X is the vertical distance from the top of the swing seat to the pivot point. CPSC staff objected to this proposed change and the motion was withdrawn.

A motion was approved to change the fall zone for rotating swings to Y + 30 inches in all directions from the swing pivot where Y is the vertical distance from the top of the swing seat to the pivot.
A motion was approved to permit the fall zone of rocking/springing equipment to overlap that of stationary equipment. However, the distance between equipment with designated play surfaces over 30 inches high, shall be a minimum of 9 feet.

A motion was approved to change the fall zone at slide exits as follows: "If the slide platform height is 4 feet or less, the fall zone at the exit measured from the end of the slide bed, shall be a minimum of 6 feet." The fall zone for slides over 4 feet in height was not changed.

A motion was approved the require sliding poles to extend 60 inches above a platform.

The subcommittee then reviewed a letter from Scott Burton regarding the spacing between individual play events on a composite structure. The chairman stated that she would include a copy of the letter with the minutes of this meeting and solicit comments from the membership.

The next meeting of the P15.29 subcommittee was scheduled for December 5-6, 1996

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