

LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Meeting of ASTM Subcommittee F15.30 for Bunk Beds

DATE OF MEETING: February 13, 1996

PLACE: Airport Marriott
Greensboro, NC

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: John Preston, ES *yep*

DATE OF ENTRY: February 16, 1996

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: John Preston, ES

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Joe Ziolkowski, AFMA	Joe Gerard, AFMA
Douglas Brackett, AFMA	David Wall, Bassett Furniture
Herman Haley, Stanley Furniture	Danny Hodges, Bassett Furn.
Trip Hutchinson, Lexington	Billy Chitwood, Bassett Furn.
Nancy Nelson, AIG Designs	Bill Suvak, Childcraft
Mark James, Lea Industries	David Burkhart, Thomasville
Michael White, Broyhill	Kathy Carrick, Sears
André Dallaire, Amisco Industries	Walter Harder, Pallister Furn.
Geoff Jackson, Vermont Precision	Lynn Brandon, This End Up
Bobby Puett, Diversified Testing	Michael Krygier, D.T.L.
Karon Matkins, Diversified Testing	Bob Dorr, Fashion Bed Group
Sebastian Izzo, Dorel Industries	Jed Johnsand, Cargo Furniture
David MacIntosh, Powell	Russell Batson, AFMA

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

After a self introduction of those present, Chairman Ziolkowski opened the meeting by stating that the ASTM F15.30 subcommittee letter ballot of revisions to the bunk bed standard that closed on 12/11/95 received no negative votes. He said that depending on the outcome of this meeting, the revisions could now be balloted by the ASTM F15 Main Committee.

The Chairman called for John Preston to discuss a CPSC staff proposed requirement addressing entrapment in lower bunk end structures that he had received during December 1995 and had been distributed to members of the subcommittee with the notice of this meeting. Preston said that the staff proposal was similar to a provision addressing entrapment in playground equipment structures that is in a CPSC Handbook for Public Playground Safety. He said that from a review of CPSC data involving entrapment incidents in bunk beds, it appeared that life threatening incidents generally occur in openings at the level of the mattress sleeping surface or close to that surface. For that reason, the staff proposal exempted openings that were either below the lower bunk foundation support system or were more than 9 inches above the mattress sleeping surface. The purpose of

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this latter exemption was to prevent the elimination of certain styles of bunk beds that manufacturers had drawn to his attention which did not appear to present an entrapment hazard.

A representative of an independent testing laboratory stated that the CPSC proposed requirement did not state whether it applied to a bed with or without a mattress. After discussion, it was agreed that the requirement should be accompanied by a test procedure.

During a lunch break a small group drafted a test procedure copies of which were then distributed to all attendees. After some further discussion and editorial changes the requirement and test procedure (see Attachment 1 to this log) were unanimously approved.

The chairman said that the lower bunk entrapment provision would be forwarded to ASTM for letter ballot by the entire subcommittee. At such time as the subcommittee approves the provision, it will be sent out for letter ballot by the F15 Main Committee together with the provisions previously approved by the subcommittee in the ballot which closed on 12/11/95.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attachment

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ASTM F15.30 SUBCOMMITTEE PROPOSAL TO ADDRESS ENTRAPMENT ON LOWER BERTH OF BUNK BEDS

Requirement

4.6.3 When tested in accordance with Section 5.6.2, there shall be no openings in the end structures of the lower bunk that will permit passage of the wedge block shown in Fig. 1 unless they are large enough to permit the free passage of a 9 inch diameter (230 mm) rigid sphere. This requirement does not apply to openings that are below the level of the lower bunk foundation support system or above a level that is 9.0 inches (230 mm) above the sleeping surface of the maximum thickness mattress and foundation combined as recommended by the manufacturer.

Test Procedure

5.6.2 Lower Bunk End Structure (See 4.6.3):

5.6.2.1 Without a mattress and foundation on the lower bunk, place the wedge block shown in Fig. 1 into any opening, tapered side first, and in the most adverse orientation. Determine if the wedge block can pass freely through the opening. If the wedge block passes through the opening, determine if a 9 inch (230 mm) diameter rigid sphere can pass freely through the opening.

5.6.2.2 With the manufacturer's recommended maximum thickness mattress and foundation in place, repeat the test in 5.6.2.1.