

**LOG OF MEETING**  
**DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES**

**SUBJECT:** Meetings of ASTM Subcommittee F08.53 Headgear Task Groups

**DATE OF MEETING:** December 11, 1996

**PLACE:** Hyatt Regency  
New Orleans, LA

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** Scott Heh, ESME *SH*

**DATE OF ENTRY:** December 23, 1996

**COMMISSION ATTENDEES:** Scott Heh, ESME

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

**SUMMARY OF MEETINGS**

This log summarizes action items and discussion of various headgear task groups within the ASTM F8.53 Headgear Subcommittee.

**Approved Actions**

The following are items that passed main committee ballot and will proceed for ASTM approval to become new standards or become revisions to existing standards:

- (1) New Standard for Headgear for Recreational Roller-Skating
- (2) The Committee approved to expand the Scope of the Skateboarding Headgear Standard to include "trick or freestyle" roller-skating.
- (3) Revisions to test equipment specifications for the Retention System Strength Test in the Headgear Test Method Standard (F 1446) and the Bicycle Helmet Performance Standard (F 1447).

**Items that were not approved**

The following are items that did not pass the Committee ballot because negative votes were found persuasive:

- (1) A new Standard for Headgear for Downhill Mountain Bicycling. Revisions to the proposed standard will be made and it will go to ballot again.
- (2) A new Standard for Skiing and Snowboarding Headgear. Revisions will be made and it will go to ballot again.
- (3) A balloted revision to the impact test line in the F 1447 standard for bicycle helmets was confusing. The proposed revision will be redrafted and submitted for ballot again.
- (4) A proposed new Standard for Headgear Used in Short Track Speed Ice Skating will be sent to ballot again with an expanded title and scope to include all types of competition speed ice skating.

**Baseball Face Protectors**

The Headgear Subcommittee discussed negative votes received on

CPSA 6 (b)(7) Cleared

X No Mfrs/Private Labels or  
Products Identified

12/24/96  
*SH*

proposed revisions to ASTM F910 Standard Specification for Face Guards for Youth Baseball. Negatives asking to change the title of the standard and asking to delete "Partial Face Protectors" as a designated type of protector were found persuasive. Changes will be made and the standard will go out for ballot again. A task group was created to respond to further negatives regarding the need to develop a test method and criteria that would allow a face protector to touch the face without resulting in injury and the need to develop requirements for field of vision.

#### New Efforts

New efforts are underway to develop new headgear standards for:

- (1) Whitewater rafting, kayaking, and canoeing
- (2) Mountaineering and rock climbing
- (3) Roller Hockey

Task groups were assigned to develop revisions for ballot to:

- (1) Clarify the figure for the hazard anvil in the Equestrian Headgear Standard
- (2) Clarify the specification for the center of gravity of the helmet test headform in ASTM F 1446.

#### Other Issues

The ASTM F08 staff manager announced that on October 24, 1996, ANSI accredited and approved ASTM F 1446 Standard Test Methods for Equipment and Procedures Used In Evaluating the Performance Characteristics of Protective Headgear and ASTM F 1447 Standard Specification for Headgear Used in Bicycling.

The issue of developing an ASTM standard for retro-reflectivity of bicycle helmets was discussed. Some helmet manufacturers stated that they have not seen a highly reflective tape that can easily be incorporated in their helmet production process. A reflective tape manufacturer stated that he was confident that his company could develop a high performance reflective tape that had the flexibility and adhesive characteristics that the helmet manufacturers desire. I mentioned that the CPSC is including reflective bike helmets as part of our study on bicycle reflector effectiveness and that a reflectivity provision will be considered for the CPSC mandatory bicycle helmet standard. A task group was established to continue to work on this issue.

cc: John Preston, ES  
 Sue Kyle, EHHA  
 Suad Nakamura, EHPS  
 Colin Church, EXHR  
 Greg Rodgers, ECSS  
 George Sushinsky, LSEL  
 OS (2)  
 ES  
 File