

MEETING LOG  
ASTM D 13.65 UV PROTECTIVE FABRICS AND CLOTHING

WHEN: July 15, 1996  
WHERE: Skybird Meeting Center, O'Hare Airport, Chicago  
ATTENDEES: see attached list  
LOG ENTRY: Lori E. Saltzman (301) 504-0477 x 1203

CPSC staff attended this meeting because CPSC is providing technical support to FTC on issues relating to testing and advertising of clothing and articles for sun protection.

The newly formed ASTM subcommittee on sun protective clothing met to discuss progress towards the development of standards for sun protective apparel that will include requirements for laboratory testing, uses, and product labeling. Harvey Schakowsky, Chair, began the meeting by summarizing the history of sun protective clothing and the formation of the ASTM subcommittee. Lori Saltzman (CPSC) described the interest of the federal agencies (FDA, FTC, CPSC) in the development of a voluntary consensus standard and briefly described the CPSC's Flammable Fabrics Act. Tim Hughes (FTC, Chicago Office) discussed FTC's interest in this area. Attendees then discussed the existence of ASTM textile standards on stress, wear, durability, and colorfastness and their applicability to the development of a standard for sun protective clothing, as well as the test procedure that FDA required for a 510K listing as a medical device (NOTE: FDA no longer considers sun protective clothing a medical device and manufacturers can no longer obtain a listing). Australia has recently developed a standard which the attendees from Australia described. Their testing is very simple, uses in vitro testing, tests the material in a relaxed state, and reports the ability of the garment to provide protection against ultraviolet radiation as UPF (ultraviolet protection factor). They say this rating system is directly comparable to the sun protection factor system used for sunscreens (i.e., a garment with a UPF of 30 will provide the skin with 30 times the protection against ultraviolet radiation).

Dr. Robert Sayre, chair of the task force on Measuring UV Transmission, proposed a standard test method for the measurement of UV radiation transmittance through fabrics, a method for calculating an estimated level of protection (protection factor), an a categorization of fabrics for PF labeling (maximum, moderate, temporary maximum, and temporary moderate).

The Chair of the Subcommittee continued the meeting with a discussion of how the consumer can identify and evaluate the degree of protection the clothing provides - UPF vs SPF (sun protection factor, most familiar to consumer,) vs or percent blockage, taken directly from transmittance data. Discussion will continue to arrive at the most appropriate way of describing the degree of protection for the consumer.

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared

X No Mfrs/PrvtLbrs or  
Products Identified

8/1/96  
JB

The next meeting is in New Orleans October 28. Chairs of the four task forces (Measuring UV Transmission - Robert Sayre, Measuring Protection at a Biological End Point - Adam Gall, Environmental Factors/Use Classification- Shawn Hughes, and Labeling - Shawn Hughes) will present reports.



