

SUBJECT: ASTM F15 Task Group for Commercial Umbrellas

DATE OF MEETING: June 2, 2020

LOCATION: Conference call

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Andy Newens (ESMC)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S):

Molly Lynyak, ASTM (Organizer)

Ben Favret, Performance Excellence Development, LLC (Host)

Joey Ruffin, Anchor Inc.

Ray Majszak, TUV SUD America, Playground Group (in place of Tim Fouchia)

Rick Rosati, Bureau Veritas (Chair of F15)

Rob Giachetti, Exponent

Robyn Weitknecht, Reedy Creek Improvement District

Suzanne Woodward, Holtz Kraft

Tony Claassen, Silver Dollar City

Daniel ?, Shadescapes USA

Other unidentified callers

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

This is the first meeting for this Task Group in its present form.

Background:

This task group was first formed under ASTM F24.40 Amusement Rides and Devices, Operations Sub Committee as these products are frequently used in Amusement Park settings. Since Commercial Umbrellas are also used in other settings such as theme parks, water parks, hotels, restaurants, parks and recreation areas where employees and or customers are in need of shade control to protect from sun and cover from the rain, ASTM F24 Executive Committee felt such a standard should reside in the ASTM F15 Committee on Consumer Products. Thus, ASTM International formed a new task group under ASTM F15 to develop standards for evaluating wind safety and durability, manufacturer installation, care, and maintenance instructions, and consumer selection, use and maintenance practices for Commercial Umbrellas.

The host described that this task group in its previous form under ASTM F24.40 drafted 3 standards but they were never ratified (participants were both users and manufacturers). The 3 draft standards answer these basic 3 questions:

- How do you evaluate the safety of a consumer product?
- How does a mfr. establish instructions and communicate them to the consumer?
- How do consumers go about selection, use, and maintenance of a product?

A meeting attendee asked why there were 3 separate draft standards rather than combining everything into one draft standard...Ben Favret, the host, responded that in his experience on the ASTM committee level, the 3 separate standards are easier to manage, review, address comments, and vote on than a single more comprehensive standard.

The names of the 3 draft standards are:

- DRAFT Standard for Evaluating Wind Safety and Durability for Commercial Umbrellas
- DRAFT Standard Practice for Umbrella Manufacturer Installation, Care, and Maintenance Instructions
- DRAFT Standard Practice Umbrella Selection Use and Maintenance

The group agreed that a good starting point for this task group would be to focus on the “Draft Standard for Evaluating Wind Safety and Durability for Commercial Umbrellas” document, which is the most substantial and fundamental of the 3 drafts.

Group members will review and comment on this draft standard for the next meeting.

A collaboration area on the ASTM site has been established for this task group where the three draft standards have been uploaded for review and comments.

The group also decided to meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 1:30pm EST for the next three months. The meeting dates are as follows: **6/9, 6/23, 7/14, 7/28, 8/11, 8/25, 9/8, and 9/22.**