

**LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES**

SUBJECT: ASTM F15.66 Crib Mattress Surface Firmness Task Group

DATE OF MEETING: June 15, 2022

PLACE OF MEETING: Teleconference

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Daniel Taxier (ESMC)

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Daniel Taxier (ESMC), Cynthia Gilliam (EC), Stephen Harsanyi (ESHF), Mary House (OGC)

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Contact ASTM for attendee list.

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

The topic of this meeting was the crib mattress surface firmness test included in CPSC's crib mattress final rule, and ASTM's options for adopting the same test or a different one in the crib mattress voluntary standard, ASTM F2933.

Two attendees described internal testing using the method in the final rule in which the test result was interpreted as a failure because the test fixture's arm touched some bunched-up fabric. One of these mattresses was described as an OEM play yard mattress not subject to the firmness requirement, and a test lab gave the same mattress a passing result. The attendees said an alternative European test method did not have the same potential "false failure" because the different test fixture design pushes down the fabric. The task group chair and CPSC staff asked if more information or pictures of this scenario could be shared with the task group for further evaluation.

One attendee questioned whether the firmness test should be required by ASTM. The task group chair responded that CPSC staff has been regularly sharing incident data with the subcommittee, and CPSC staff pointed out that the firmness test was included in the crib mattress NPR and the final rule because it addressed hazards staff identified in the incident data. Another attendee stated that the hazard should be addressed by ASTM.

In response to questions from the task group chair and other attendees about the update process, CPSC staff described the PL 112-28 update process that would apply when ASTM publishes a new version of ASTM F2933 and notifies the Commission. Once received, CPSC staff would evaluate the revision and provide a recommendation to the Commission on whether the revised voluntary standard improves safety. The Commission must find that the revised voluntary standard improves safety in order for it to become part of the federal regulation for crib mattresses. CPSC staff stated their interest in understanding whether test repeatability is an issue, because staff has not observed any issues with test repeatability, and if so, evaluating potential clarifications that could improve the mattress firmness test's reliability.

The task group chair and several manufacturers interested in the European test method will meet separately to discuss an approach for gathering test data. The next task group meeting will be scheduled at a future date.