



MEETING LOG

SUBJECT: ASTM F15.16 Infant Feeding Supports Subcommittee

FY 24 OP PLAN ENTRY: Nursing Support Products

DATE OF MEETING: 2/1/2024

LOCATION OF MEETING: Virtual and In-Person at the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) National Product Testing and Evaluation Center (NPTEC) (Rockville, MD)

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Tim Smith (ESHF)

FILING DATE: 2/5/2024

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): In-person: Tim Smith (ESHF), Jacqueline Campbell (EXHR), Mark Eilbert (LSM), Ashley Johnson (HSPP), Celestine Kish (ESHF), Daniel Taxier (ESMC), and Suad Wanna-Nakamura (HSPP); Virtual: Stefanie Marques (HSPP) and Tabby Zeb (GCRA)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Contact ASTM for the full attendee list

Summary of Meeting:

This meeting of the ASTM Infant Feeding Supports subcommittee was led by one of the co-chairs of the subcommittee, Jessica Doyle. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the negatives and other comments received on the most recent ballot of the draft standard for Infant Feeding Supports: ASTM F15 (23-20), Item 2. The primary topics of discussed were as follows:

- *Section Numbering and References.* The co-chair identified, and intends to correct, all errors related to section numbering and references, which encompassed many of the issues raised in the negatives.
- *Scope.* The subcommittee agreed that language should be added to exempt sling carriers from the standard, consistent with the exemption of these products in CPSC's proposed rule for nursing pillows. The subcommittee also agreed that the name of the draft standard should be changed from "infant feeding supports" to "nursing pillows," and that all references to "infant feeding supports" within the standard should be updated similarly or should be changed to "the product."
- *Performance Requirements.* The language of the firmness requirement will be corrected to apply to the final force at each test location, not the maximum force. The subcommittee agreed to some changes to the infant containment provision but intends to send the requirement back to the Performance Requirements task group to address confusion surrounding the current wording of the requirement. In addition, to address one of the negatives, the co-chair agreed to add a rationale for the infant containment provision to the Appendix.



- **Test Methods.** There was substantial discussion surrounding the firmness test method, and the subcommittee stated that their ultimate intent was to incorporate the firmness test method that is under development by the Infant Bedding subcommittee, once it has been published. The lead of the Infant Bedding firmness task group, who was present, stated that the test method was nearly in final form and that in about a month it should be very close to what will be published; however, publication could take several months. Some subcommittee members also had questions about what constitutes the “inner wall” of the product and at what angle the test probe should be applied to the inner wall for the purpose of assessing firmness. The subcommittee discussed the possibility of adding an illustration or diagram to the draft standard for clarification. The subcommittee reviewed the illustrations used in CPSC staff’s notice of proposed rulemaking (NPR) briefing package for nursing pillows and concluded that these helped clarify but did not fully address the questions. The subcommittee agreed to send the firmness test method back to the performance requirements task group; to forward the relevant ballot comments to the Infant Bedding firmness task group, for their information; and to ask the Scope and Terminology task group to consider defining “inner wall.”
- **Marking and Labeling.** The subcommittee discussed some members’ concerns about the required product warning being too long, with an initial sentence (“USING THIS PRODUCT FOR INFANT SLEEP OR NAPS CAN KILL”) that is too alarming, and the possibility that this might cause consumers to ignore the warning. One subcommittee member recommended not using ANSI Z535-like formatting and colors, stating that consumers have habituated to that format and that warnings without such formatting are likely to be more effective. The subcommittee also recommended revising or clarifying the “conspicuous” definition, which seemed to require many products to have multiple warning labels. These issues will be taken back to the Warnings task group for consideration.

Next Steps:

Various portions of the draft standard will be reexamined by the relevant task groups to address the issues raised in the negatives and comments. The next subcommittee meeting is expected to be during the week of May 20, 2024, but individual task groups intend to meet beforehand.