



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20207
October 17, 2005

Ms. Kitty Pilarz, Chairman
ASTM F-15 Committee on Consumer Products
c/o Fisher-Price
636 Gerard Avenue
East Aurora, NY 14052

Dear Kitty,

This is to confirm that the staff of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) supports the efforts of the ASTM F-15 Committee to organize an ASTM F-15 Subcommittee to develop a new safety standard to address the hazards associated with portable (inflatable) pools.* CPSC staff plans to host an ASTM organizational meeting for this activity in early December at CPSC Headquarters, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. By having the meeting at the CPSC Headquarters it will facilitate the participation of CPSC staff members. This organizational meeting will bring together interested parties to review the injury and death data, discuss the appropriate remedial actions to reduce these losses, and explore developing a new national consensus safety standard.

This summer ASTM International and CPSC staff co-sponsored a meeting at CPSC Headquarters to solicit ideas for ways to effectively reduce the risk of drowning in these pools. A major focus of the discussion was the concern that there are no known voluntary standards for these increasingly popular and low-cost products. Further, these products are often used without safety fences, alarms, covers, and other devices intended to reduce the risk of drowning. We look forward to seeing you in early December.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colin B. Church".

Colin B. Church
Voluntary Standards and International Activities Coordinator

cc: Ms. Kathie Morgan, ASTM International, General Manager Technical Committee Support

* These comments are those of the CPSC staff, have not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the views of, the Commission.