



UNITED STATES
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

Memorandum

Date: DEC 28 2007

TO : The Commission

THROUGH: Todd Stevenson, Secretary *TS*
Lowell Martin, Acting General Counsel *planned for Lowell Martin*
for Patricia Semple, Executive Director *je*

FROM : Colin B. Church *CBC*
Voluntary Standards Coordinator

SUBJECT : FY 2007 Voluntary Standards Activities Annual Report

Attached is the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission staff's *Voluntary Standards Activities FY 2007 Annual Report (October 2006 – September 2007)* which is forwarded for your information. If you have any questions, please call Colin Church at 301-504-7245.

ATTACHMENT:

X 12/28/07

***VOLUNTARY STANDARDS ACTIVITIES
FY 2007 ANNUAL REPORT
(October 2006 – September 2007)****



**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland 20814**

* This report was prepared by the CPSC staff, has not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the views of the Commission.

Voluntary Standards Activities 10/1/06 – 9/30/07

SUMMARY

Thirty eight new, revised, or reaffirmed voluntary safety standards, for which the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff monitored or provided technical support, received final approval during the period from 10/1/06 – 9/30/07. These addressed amusement rides (portable), arc-fault circuit interrupters, all-terrain vehicles, bassinets, bath seats, bath tubs (slip resistance), bed rails, blind cords, booster seats, bunk beds, candle accessories, candle glass containers, candle labeling, infant frame carriers, chairs (children's folding), diaper changing tables (residential), child resistant packaging, cribs (full-size), cribs (non-full-size/play yards), fans (portable electric), garage doors (sectional interfaces), garage doors (test methods), garage door operators, gates and enclosures, high chairs, playground equipment for children less than two years of age (two standards), public playground equipment (two standards), pool alarms, pool suction release devices, stationary activity centers, strollers (two standards), toys (two standards), walkers (infant), and window fall prevention devices.

In total, the CPSC staff provided technical support to or monitored the development of 63 voluntary safety standards which are included in the information that follows. Nearly all of these were handled by three standards development/coordinating organizations: ASTM International (previously called the American Society for Testing and Materials), the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL). These standards provide safety provisions addressing potential hazards associated with consumer products found in our homes, schools, and recreational areas. In addition, CPSC staff continued monitoring conformance to selected voluntary product safety standards.

THE "V-STAR" REPORT

Below you will find the current Voluntary Standards Tracking and Access Report (V-STAR) which shows, among other things, the objective of the standard under development, the name of the employee leading each activity, and the status of the standard. Information from the CPSC staff was compiled and edited by the Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction to prepare the report. It is anticipated that this report will be issued twice a year, both for the middle and the end of the CPSC fiscal year which runs from October 1st to September 30th. Below is the *V-STAR FY 2007 ANNUAL REPORT (October 2006 – September 2007)*.

INCREASED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COMMENT

During the reporting period, the CPSC staff continued the program to provide more

information on CPSC staff voluntary standards activities. Draft CPSC staff recommendations on issues to be considered by voluntary standards organizations were placed on the CPSC web site to allow for public review and comment. Further, the CPSC staff continued to expand the voluntary standards portion of the CPSC web site with a goal of including information on all voluntary standards activities which the CPSC staff monitors and for which it provides technical support.

ONE-STOP SHOPPING FOR VOLUNTARY CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARDS

On January 23, 2007, an addition to the CPSC web site was approved which made it easier for users to find more extensive information on voluntary consumer product safety standards and certification information. With this addition users are able to access the computer search engines of the three major standards organizations (ANSI, ASTM International, and UL) which handle over 90% of the voluntary safety standards on which the CPSC staff works. None of the existing voluntary standards information previously on CPSC's web site was changed with this addition. Further, the most recent midyear and annual reports on CPSC voluntary standards activities were added to the CPSC web site.

VOLUNTARY STANDARDS TRACKING AND ACCESS REPORT

CPSC STAFF VOLUNTARY STANDARDS ACTIVITIES

**FY 2007 ANNUAL REPORT
(October 2006 – September 2007)**



**U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland 20814**

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✱ 12/28/07 ✱

***VOLUNTARY STANDARDS
TRACKING AND ACCESS REPORT***

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff works cooperatively with standards developers, consumers, industry and other interested parties to develop consumer product safety standards. A description of these activities follows within the CPSC staff's Voluntary Standards Tracking and Access Report (V-STAR) for the 2007 Fiscal Year from October 1, 2006, through September 30, 2007. The report contains, among other things, the objective of the standard under development, the name of the employee leading each activity, and the status of the standard.

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CPSC Staff Voluntary Standards Activities FY 2007 Annual Report

<i>Product</i>	Air Cleaners
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Thomas, Treye
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) <i>Standard for Electrostatic Air Cleaners</i> (UL 867) to improve the repeatability of the ozone test method.
<i>Activities</i>	<p>UL 867 outlines specific testing procedures to determine the amount of ozone that an air cleaner produces. Currently the limit for ozone produced by an air cleaning device is 50 parts per billion (ppb). In the fall of 2006, CPSC staff posted a contractor report and staff assessment on the CPSC Web site for public comment. The contractor report reviewed the ozone limit to determine whether it is sufficient to protect consumer health.</p> <p>A UL working group developed clarifications for the testing procedures. Factors considered by the working group included chamber size, direction of air cleaner exhaust, air exchange rates, and length of testing. On 6/22/07, a ballot was circulated to the UL Standards Technical Panel (STP). Based on comments received, the proposal was revised and recirculated on 9/21/07.</p>
<i>Next Action</i>	Review revised proposal, ballot closes 11/5/07; complete a review of public comments on the contractor report and staff assessment
<i>Product</i>	All-Terrain Vehicles
<i>Staff Contact</i>	Paul, Caroleene
<i>Purpose</i>	To revise the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America standard for <i>Four Wheel All-Terrain Vehicles – Equipment, Configuration, and Performance Requirements</i> (ANSI/SVIA 1-2001) to reduce hazards associated with ATVs.
<i>Activities</i>	<p>A revised Specialty Vehicle Institute of America standard for <i>Four Wheel All-Terrain Vehicles – Equipment, Configuration, and Performance Requirements</i> (ANSI/SVIA 1-2007) was approved on 7/23/07.</p> <p>CPSC staff met with the SVIA technical group on 10/18/06 to review the similarities and differences between the SVIA proposed revised standard and the 8/10/06 CPSC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR). During the reporting period, CPSC staff reviewed three versions of the draft revised standard, which were circulated to the canvass committee for review (ballots closing on 11/13/06, 3/17/07, and 5/23/07). CPSC staff sent comments to SVIA stating that the proposed rules published in the NPR reflected the staff's position on the existing voluntary standard and constituted the revisions that staff would seek to that standard.</p>
<i>Next Action</i>	Continue to monitor standard activities

Product Amusement Rides, Portable

Staff Contact Caton, Tom

Purpose To monitor and provide technical support to the development of new and revised standards of the ASTM F24 Committee on Amusement Rides and Devices.

Activities A revised standard, ASTM F2374-07a *Standard Practice for Design, Manufacture, Operation, and Maintenance of Inflatable Amusement Devices*, was approved on 6/1/07.

CPSC staff also reviewed ballots for standard practices for amusement railways, climbing netting/mesh, and hydraulic systems. There were no CPSC staff comments. Staff attended a 2/22-24/07 ASTM F24 Committee meeting; much of the discussion focused on definitions and consistency among the various standards.

Next Action Participate in the review process for several standards, not yet scheduled

Product Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupters (AFCIs)

Staff Contact Lee, Doug

Purpose To strengthen the safety provisions of the *Standard for Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupters* (UL 1699) to reduce the fire hazard associated with electrical wiring in homes.

Activities A revised *Standard for Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupters* (ANSI/UL 1699) was approved on 2/14/07. Revisions included the addition of requirements for the Leakage-Current Detector-Interrupter (LCDI) trip threshold test and for the LCDI supervisory circuit test, among others. CPSC staff acquired some new technology AFCI devices for testing. Staff also continued to monitor revisions to the standard to support new technology AFCIs and LCDIs.

CPSC staff participated in the 2008 *National Electrical Code* Report on Comments meeting (11/28-12/1/06) and the annual meeting on 6/5-6/07. Requirements to extend AFCIs to dwelling unit living areas were accepted for the 2008 *National Electrical Code*.

Next Action Continue to monitor standards activities to support new AFCI technology devices

Product **Baby Bouncers**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Bouncer Seats* (ASTM F2167) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities CPSC staff participated on a task group to address concerns with the forward stability test procedure. The task group worked on details to make the requirements consistent. This task group has deferred its action items until FY08. In addition, staff participated in a 3/19/07 subcommittee meeting. A task group was established to look at the issue of whether toy bars used as handles should be covered in the standard by performance requirements in addition to a warning label.

Next Action Participate in task groups; participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/08/07

Product **Baby Gates**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Expansion Gates and Expandable Enclosures* (ASTM F1004) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Expansion Gates and Expandable Enclosures* (ASTM F1004-07) was approved on 2/1/07. The revision included changes to the openings requirements, added lead paint restrictions, and included a revised push out test to address pushing or pulling for solid panel gates. CPSC staff provided technical support for possible revisions to the standard to address injuries associated with tripping. Staff participated in a 3/22/07 subcommittee meeting and provided injury data to the subcommittee chairman.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/09/07

Product **Baby Swings**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Swings* (ASTM F2088) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities CPSC staff participated in a 3/22/07 subcommittee meeting at which infant swing stability was discussed. A concurrent subcommittee and main committee ballot to revise the specification for infant swings was issued on 8/17/07. Items addressed in the revision include: stability of swings with multiple heights, toy accessories, dynamic testing as it relates to structural integrity, adding requirements for passive crotch restraints, clarifying other restraint requirements, battery operations and specific labeling for cradle swings. The ballot closed 9/17/07.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/09/07

Product **Baby Walkers**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Infant Walkers* (ASTM F977) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Infant Walkers* (ASTM F977-07) was approved on 4/1/07. The revisions to the standard included requirements for toy accessories, marking and labeling, and leg openings/occupant retention. In a 2/20/07 letter to ASTM, CPSC staff recommended that the performance requirements for the Rearward Facing Step Test (Section 7.6.5) be reviewed. This recommendation was based on CPSC staff testing of baby walkers which indicated inconsistent results for this test. Staff participated in a 3/22/07 subcommittee meeting at which a task group was established to address the CPSC staff concerns. CPSC staff will participate in the task group activity.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/09/07

Product **Bassinets and Cradles**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bassinets and Cradles* (ASTM F2194) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bassinets and Cradles* (ASTM F2194-07) was approved on 2/1/07. The revised standard clarifies warning materials (editorial changes), deletes a section requiring manufacturers show model numbers, and requires that the date of manufacture be shown on the product.

CPSC staff participated in a 3/20/07 subcommittee meeting. It was agreed that corner post requirements, like those in the crib standard, should be added to the standard for bassinets. A concurrent subcommittee and main committee ballot was issued on 8/17/07 to add corner post requirements to the standard. The ballot closed on 9/17/07. The F15 Committee determined that a standard development activity should be initiated for co-sleeper products. ASTM planned to send a letter seeking possible interested parties for this activity at the end of the reporting period.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/11/07

Product Bath Seats

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Bath Seats* (ASTM F1967) to eliminate or reduce the risk of infant drowning resulting from tipover and climbing out hazards.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Infant Bath Seats* (ASTM F1967-07a) was approved on 2/1/07. The revised standard includes new stability requirements, which require products to be tested in soapy and wet conditions. CPSC staff participated in a 3/21/07 subcommittee meeting. Future revisions to the standard were discussed. The focus of possible revisions was mostly editorial in an effort to maintain consistency with the new infant tub standard that is being developed.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/09/07

Product Batteries

Staff Contact Lee, Doug

Purpose To provide technical support to the revision or development of safety standards and certification programs for high energy density batteries to ensure safe and reliable use.

Activities CPSC staff participated in activities for several standards associated with batteries: Underwriters Laboratories, UL 1642 - *Lithium Batteries*, and UL 2054 - *Household and Commercial Batteries*, Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, IEEE 1725 - *Rechargeable Batteries for Cellular Telephones*, and IEEE 1625 - *Rechargeable Batteries for Portable Computing*. Staff also monitored activities of NEMA and the IPC, Association Connecting Electronics Industries. Staff attended several industry and government battery safety meetings (11/1/06, 2/21-22/07, 3/19-22/07, 5/21-24, 5/24-25, 8/28, and 9/25-28) to discuss improving the safety of batteries through voluntary safety standards.

Next Action Participate in ANSI/National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) standards meetings on 10/29-30/07

Product **Bed Rails**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bed Rails* (ASTM F2085) to improve the marking and labeling as well as to clarify testing procedures.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bed Rails* (ASTM F2085-07) was approved on 2/1/07. The revisions added a requirement for a third platform test (a flat board and mattress).

CPSC staff participated in a 3/19/07 subcommittee meeting. In addition, staff participated in a breakage task group conference call to finalize the proposed new requirement for structural integrity.

Next Action Participate on task group; attend subcommittee meeting on 10/08/07

Product **Bicycles**

Staff Contact Amodeo, Vince

Purpose To develop new or revised safety standards for bicycles and bicycle components.

Activities CPSC staff reviewed ballots for two new ASTM draft standards:

- 1) *Standard Test Methods for Bicycle Manually Operated Front Wheel Retention Systems*. The ballot closed 12/7/06. The draft standard was revised to address negative votes and comments and was reballoted. The ballot closed 9/21/07. There were no CPSC staff comments.
- 2) *Standard Test Methods for Bicycle Frames*. The ballot closed 12/7/06. The draft standard was revised to address negative votes and comments and was reballoted. The ballot closed 4/6/07. There were no CPSC staff comments.

Staff also participated in a 5/22-23/07 subcommittee meeting. Several task groups presented status reports of their activities: 1) Wheels, 2) Frames, 3) Handlebars and Grips, 4) Composite Structures, and 5) Forks.

Next Action Review minutes of 9/26/07 subcommittee meeting, when available

Product **Blind Cords**

Staff Contact Paul, Caroleene

Purpose To revise the Window Covering Manufacturers Association *Standard for Safety of Corded Window Covering Products* (ANSI/WCMA A100.1) to reduce strangulation hazards associated with window covering cords.

Activities A revised Window Covering Manufacturers Association *Standard for Safety of Corded Window Covering Products* (ANSI/WCMA A100.1) was approved on 5/17/07. The revised standard includes provisions for:

- 1) A new location requirement for an inner cord stop device
- 2) A new test method for measuring the break-away force of cord release devices
- 3) A new requirement for cord tension devices to prevent a product from working if the device is not tied down
- 4) Editorial corrections to the body of the standard

On 4/24/07, CPSC staff participated in a review of fatal blind cord related incidents for the years 2005 and 2006. In 5/07, the WCMA updated *A Study of Design and Other Influences Impacting Window-Covering Cord Strangulation Deaths as Recorded by the Consumer Product Safety Commission Between 1996-2006*. The study continues to be a guide for voluntary standard activities.

Next Action Participate in WCMA Technical Committee meeting on 10/30/07; topics will include wood and Roman shades and products with multiple operational cords

Product **Booster Seats**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To assist in development of a new safety standard to address hazards associated with booster seats.

Activities A new *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Booster Seats* (ASTM F2640-07) was approved on 9/15/07. CPSC staff participated in a 3/21/07 meeting of the ASTM F15.17 Subcommittee on Booster Seats. At the meeting, the ballot results for the new standard were reviewed. One negative regarding wording for warnings was received. The negative was voted to be non-persuasive. Editorial changes were also suggested and agreed upon.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/09/07

Product **Bunk Beds**

Staff Contact Bathalon, Susan

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bunk Beds* (ASTM F1427) to address the strangulation hazard associated with vertical protrusions on bunk beds.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bunk Beds* (ASTM F1427-07) was approved on 7/15/07. The revision includes new requirements to address the strangulation hazard presented by vertical protrusions. On 3/22/07, the subcommittee reviewed results from concurrent subcommittee and main committee ballots of a revised standard. There was one negative subcommittee ballot. The issue was that the vertical protrusion test might be restrictive with bunk bed designs that do not present a strangulation hazard. The negative vote was withdrawn with the creation of a task group to review the issue. CPSC staff will participate on this task group.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee and task group meetings, not yet scheduled

Product **Candles**

Staff Contact Tenney, Allyson

Purpose To develop new safety standards to eliminate or significantly reduce fire hazards associated with candles and candle products.

Activities A new *Standard Specification for Fire Safety for Candle Accessories* (ASTM F2601-07) was approved on 4/1/07. The standard includes provisions for candle accessory stability and flammability requirements for tealight burners and trim rings. The standard was approved following a review of all documentation by the ASTM Committee on Standards to make sure that ASTM procedures were properly followed. Additional requirements for other types of accessories are being drafted. All candleholders (glass, ceramic, wood, plastic, etc.) and toppers, shades, and hurricanes are expected to be included.

 A revised *Standard Specification for Cautionary Labeling for Candles Burned in a Home* (ASTM F2058-07) was approved on 8/1/07. The *Standard Specification for Annealed Soda-Lime-Silicate Glass Containers That Are Produced for Use as Candle Containers* (ASTM F2179-07) was reapproved on 6/1/07.

 CPSC staff participated in an 8/8-9/07 Fire Safety Task Group meeting. A *Gel Candle Appendix*, an appendix to be added to the *Fire Safety Standard*, was discussed. The revised appendix will not be mandatory but will provide practical guidance and recommendations for producing gel-based candle products.

Next Action Participate in Fire Safety Task Group meeting on 10/25/07

Product Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms

Staff Contact Switzer, Don

Purpose To revise the *Standard for Single- and Multiple-Station Carbon Monoxide Alarms* (UL 2034) to improve consumer safety.

Activities CPSC staff monitored the status of various proposals. These proposals were developed to address staff recommendations on digital display accuracy, end-of-life warning, and response of CO alarms to rising CO levels. The proposals for the rising CO concentration test and end-of-life warning were adopted by the Standards Technical Panel (STP). The comment period to establish the effective date closed 9/26/07. The digital display accuracy requirement was amended in the standard.

Next Action Establish effective date for the standard

Product Changing Tables, Diaper

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Product Safety Specification for Baby Changing Tables for Domestic Use* (ASTM F2388) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Product Safety Specification for Baby Changing Tables for Domestic Use* (ASTM F2388-06) was approved on 11/1/06. It included the addition of requirements for contoured pads. CPSC staff participated in a 3/20/07 subcommittee meeting where requirements for straps on changing tables were discussed. CPSC staff provided incident data. A task group was established to look at this issue again.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/11/07

Product Child-Resistant Packaging

Staff Contact Sharpless, Perry

Purpose To revise requirements for the *Standard Classification of Child-Resistant Packages* (ASTM D3475) to improve safety.

Activities A revised *Standard Classification of Child-Resistant Packages* (ASTM D3475-07) was approved on 4/1/07. The revisions included a CPSC staff proposal for the addition of four new package examples of existing classification designations and changes in the manufacture for two packages that were already in the standard. Staff also participated in subcommittee meetings on 4/16-17/07.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/29-30/07

Product **Cribs (Commercial)**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To develop safety requirements for a new safety standard for cribs in commercial settings, such as hotels and day care centers.

Activities CPSC staff participated in a 3/20/07 meeting of the ASTM F15.18 Subcommittee on Cribs, Toddler Beds and Play Yards, at which the subcommittee reviewed the draft standard. The issue of banning wood screws was discussed, and a task group to develop performance requirements for wood screws was established.

Next Action Participate in task group on wood screws; participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/11/07

Product **Cribs (Full-Size)**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Full-Size Cribs* (ASTM F1169) to reduce the hazards associated with these products.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Full-Size Cribs* (ASTM F1169-07) was approved on 9/15/07. CPSC staff participated in a 3/20/07 subcommittee meeting at which a proposed revision to the standard was discussed. A negative vote dealing with the warnings section was found non-persuasive. Task groups on corner posts, crib slats, and crib hardware reported the status of their activities. CPSC staff participated in the task groups on crib slats and hardware. CPSC staff collected incident data pertaining to hardware issues to share with the subcommittee at the next meeting.

Next Action Participate on task groups; participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/11/07

Product **Cribs (Non-Full-Size) and Play Yards**

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Non-Full-Size Baby Cribs/Play Yards* (ASTM F406) to reduce the hazards associated with these products.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Non-Full-Size Baby Cribs/Play Yards* (ASTM F406-07) was approved on 1/1/07. CPSC staff participated in a 3/20/07 subcommittee meeting at which the results of a ballot to revise the warnings section of the standard were reviewed. No negatives were received.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/11/07

Product **Electric Lighting**

Staff Contact Luo, Anna

Purpose To revise the *Standard for Safety for Luminaires (UL 153)* to reduce the risks of fire and shock associated with electric lighting.

Activities CPSC engineering staff conducted an analysis of CPSC in-depth investigation reports along with examination of incident samples to try to determine the root causes of lighting-related fires.

Next Action Provide a report of the CPSC staff analysis to American Lighting Association for review

Product **Emergency Escape Masks**

Staff Contact Khanna, Rikki

Purpose To develop revisions to the International Safety Equipment Association *Standard for Air-Purifying Respiratory Protective Escape Devices (ANSI/ISEA 110)* to improve consumer safety.

Activities At a 3/15/07 meeting of the International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA), members reviewed and discussed revisions to the standard. CPSC staff reported that it was conducting an evaluation of fire escape masks. This evaluation included testing products to the ANSI/ISEA 110-2003 standard as well as a human factors analysis. Meeting participants were asked to provide ISEA staff with contact information on potential participants for the external consensus review of the revised standard. At a 7/17/07 meeting, changes to the face, head, and neck dimensions were proposed based on a recent anthropometric study conducted by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

Next Action Review revised draft standard when available; provide reports on staff evaluations of sample escape masks

Product Fans, Portable

Staff Contact Luo, Anna

Purpose To revise the *Standard for Electric Fans (UL 507)* to reduce the risk of fire associated with portable electric fans and to reduce the risk of electric shock associated with electric fans for home-use inflatable children's toys.

Activities Revisions to the *Standard for Electric Fans (UL 507)* were proposed on 4/27/07. The proposed revisions, which were published on 9/27/07, include new performance requirements for power supply cords for portable electric fans. The new requirements include pinching, abrasion, crushing, and flexing tests and will become effective on 9/27/2010. CPSC staff provided technical support to a working group that developed these new performance requirements. Staff reviewed an 11/20/06 working group proposal on new performance tests that was sent to the Standards Technical Panel (STP). At a 2/27/07 STP meeting, CPSC staff supported the new requirements.

In addition, on 3/28/07, CPSC staff submitted a proposal to the UL STP on electric fans to address potential electric shock hazards associated with home-use inflatable children's toys.

Next Action Review comments on CPSC staff proposal on fans for home-use inflatables, when available

Product Folding Chairs, Children's

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To develop a new standard for children's folding chairs to improve safety to children.

Activities A new *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Children's Folding Chairs (ASTM F2613-07)* was approved 2/1/07. The standard requires dual action locking to avoid unintentional collapse resulting in amputation and pinching hazards. CPSC staff participated in a 3/20/07 subcommittee meeting at which the subcommittee discussed other possible performance requirements.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/10/07

Product Fuel Tanks

Staff Contact Bathalon, Susan

Purpose To develop a new *Standard for Small Off-Road Ground Supported Outdoor Power Equipment Gasoline Fuel Systems Performance Specifications and Test Procedures* (ANSI B71.10) to minimize hazards associated with fuel leakage from plastic gasoline tanks and fuel delivery components used on powered lawn equipment.

Activities As a canvass participant, CPSC staff provided comments to the ANSI B71.10 draft standard in 11/06. The committee met in closed meetings without CPSC staff participation on several occasions to revise the draft standard. A revised draft was provided to canvass participants. The revised draft standard incorporated only editorial comments. In a 6/14/07 letter, CPSC staff reiterated its concerns that the draft standard included manufacturer molding process quality checks but was inadequate in assuring long-term fuel tank integrity over the life of the product. The revised draft received one negative comment that called for a referenced ASTM fuel to be used in applicable tests for the purposes of repeatability and reproducibility but was ruled non-persuasive. The canvass members were asked to recast or reaffirm their votes in light of this negative ballot. CPSC staff reaffirmed its abstention ballot. This canvass ballot closed on 9/17/07.

Next Action Review ballot results and revised standard, when available

Product Furniture

Staff Contact Whitfield, Troy

Purpose To revise the *Standard Safety Specification for Chests, Door Chests, and Dressers* (ASTM F2057) to address injuries and deaths of children associated with furniture tipover and to review hazards associated with glass furniture.

Activities CPSC staff participated in a 3/21/07 subcommittee meeting to discuss the results of a ballot to:

- 1) Strengthen the stability requirements for clothing storage units mainly intended for use in children's rooms
- 2) Add language to the standard for inclusion of wall attachment devices that consumers may use as an additional precaution to prevent tipover

Warning labels and information in the instructions regarding the hazard of tipover and the potential consequences were also discussed. In addition, CPSC staff participated in a task group meeting to develop a voluntary standard for glass top furniture. The discussion included whether or not glass shelving or glass used in doors should be considered. It was agreed to move forward with glass top applications and expand to shelving and vertical applications if incident data showed the need. It was decided that the standard should reference existing glass standards for appropriate applications and performance.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting, not yet scheduled

Product	Garage Door/Gate Operators
Staff Contact	Murphy, John
Purpose	To develop or revise the standards for garage doors and gate operators, which include the <i>Standard for Door, Drapery, Gate, Louver, and Window Operators and Systems</i> (UL 325) and the Door and Access Systems Manufacturers Association <i>Standard for Section Interfaces on Residential Garage Door Systems</i> (ANSI/DASMA 116), to address safety hazards associated with this equipment.
Activities	<p>A new <i>Standard for Section Interfaces on Residential Garage Door Systems</i> (ANSI/DASMA 116-2007) was approved on 1/29/07. The standard contains provisions to preclude sectional doors pinching and amputating fingers when a garage door closes. This is accomplished using tongue and groove edges and guards over joints. On 12/15/06, prior to approval of the standard, CPSC staff provided comments on the proposed standard. The proposed standard is intended to reduce the likelihood that a consumer will get their hand caught in the section joint of a garage door.</p> <p>The ANSI <i>Standard Method for Testing Garage Doors: Determination of Life Cycling Performance</i> (ANSI/DASMA 109-2001 (R2007)) was reaffirmed on 8/23/07. This standard is one of several garage door standards related to ANSI/DASMA 116. CPSC staff participated in the ballot as a member of the ANSI canvass list.</p> <p>The <i>Standard for Door, Drapery, Gate, Louver, and Window Operators and Systems</i> (UL 325) was revised on 8/29/07. The revisions pertained to commercial garage door openers. In addition, CPSC staff participated in conference calls (12/13/06 and 4/4/07) of the UL Standards Technical Panel (STP) to discuss a proposal to revise requirements for garage door operator/garage door systems and garage door operators with two inherent entrapment protection devices.</p>
Next Action	Participate in UL Standards Technical Panel working group on garage door operators with automatic functions

Product	Gasoline Containers
Staff Contact	Murphy, John
Purpose	To revise the <i>Standard Specification for Determination of Child-Resistance of Portable Fuel Containers for Consumer Use</i> (ASTM F2517) to address hazards associated with these products.
Activities	<p>Revisions to the <i>Standard Specification for Determination of Child-Resistance of Portable Fuel Containers for Consumer Use</i> (ASTM F2517) were balloted on 5/8/07. There were several negative votes, which were resolved at an 8/16/07 meeting of the ASTM F15.10 technical subcommittee held at CPSC.</p> <p>The ASTM F15.10 technical subcommittee drafted a <i>Standard Specification for Portable Gasoline Containers for Consumer Use</i> (ASTM F852), as well as two other standards that are referenced in ASTM F2517: <i>Specification for Portable Kerosine and Diesel Containers for Consumer Use</i> (ASTM F976) and <i>Specification for Portable Gasoline and Kerosine Spill Resistant Fueling Systems for Consumer Use</i> (ASTM F2234) during the 5/8/07 ballot.</p>
Next Action	Review other ballots, when available
Product	Generators, Portable
Staff Contact	Buyer, Janet
Purpose	To develop a new <i>Standard for Portable Engine Generator Assemblies</i> (UL Subject 2201) to reduce carbon monoxide deaths associated with portable generators.
Activities	<p>On 2/8/07, UL and CPSC staff met to discuss CPSC staff concerns regarding the safety of portable generators. UL stated that they intend to develop methods and safety requirements to be incorporated in a new UL standard which addresses potential hazards associated with portable generators. Safety provisions include requirements related to CO emissions, weather resistance, shock and electrocution, product markings and instructions for use, thermal burns, theft, engine noise, and fire.</p> <p>UL revised their Outline of Investigation Subject 2201 to incorporate these safety provisions and reissued it as their First Proposed Edition of the <i>Standard for Portable Generator Assemblies</i>, UL 2201. On 5/11/07, the proposed standard was sent to the STP for recognition as a consensus-approved UL standard. Staff reviewed the document and provided comments to UL in a 7/16/07 letter. Consensus on the proposal was not achieved at the end of the reporting period.</p>
Next Action	Participate in UL STP meeting on 12/13-14/07

Product Ground-Fault Circuit-Interrupters (GFCIs)

Staff Contact Lee, Doug

Purpose To improve GFCIs by making them less dependent on consumer testing and to revise the *Standard for Ground-Fault Circuit-Interrupters (UL 943)*, as appropriate.

Activities At a 2/8/07 meeting with National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) members, CPSC staff encouraged NEMA members to develop enhanced GFCIs that provide a self/auto testing feature and that do not provide power if the GFCI is not capable of providing the shock protection for which it is designed. Staff commented on an updated article on GFCIs for NEMA.

Next Action Continue to work with NEMA members to enhance GFCIs

Product Heaters, Electric

Staff Contact Butturini, Randy

Purpose To revise the *Standard for Electric Baseboard Heating Equipment (UL 1042)* and the *Standard for Fixed and Location-Dedicated Electric Room Heaters (UL 2021)* to reduce the risk of fire.

Activities CPSC staff developed draft proposals which would require the use of manual-reset temperature limiting controls (instead of automatic-reset controls) for most residential portable and fixed-position electric heaters. The staff draft proposals were posted for public comment on the CPSC Web site before they were submitted to the UL Standards Technical Panel (STP) for electric heaters. At a 5/1-2/07 STP meeting, CPSC staff presented its proposals for discussion. Proposals for the *Standard for Electric Baseboard Heating Equipment (UL 1042)* for additional supply cord requirements, requirements for normal operation of temperature-limiting devices, and additional manufacturing/production line testing were issued on 9/21/07, with comments due on 11/5/07.

Next Action Review STP ballot, comments due on 11/5/07

Product Helmets, Recreational
Staff Contact McCallion, Rick
Purpose To revise the safety standards and test methods for recreational helmets to improve safety.

Activities CPSC staff participated in discussions regarding the tightening of strap elongation test tolerances. ASTM and CPSC standards currently allow a 10 percent tolerance in the drop weight used. However, current testing is being conducted to evaluate the effect of weight variation. Staff participated in subcommittee and task group meetings on 5/22-23/07. There was further discussion on retention tests and how they are performed in different laboratories, and additional investigation will be conducted. Discussions also included helmet labeling.

Next Action Participate in task group and subcommittee meetings on 11/13-16/07

Product High Chairs

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for High Chairs* (ASTM F404) to strengthen its safety provisions dealing with entrapment and falls.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for High Chairs* (ASTM F404-07) was approved on 2/1/07. The revised standard includes a new provision for accessibility of the tray release and language on passive crotch restraints.

CPSC staff attended a 3/19/07 subcommittee meeting at which ballot results for interpretation changes and restraints were reviewed. A new requirement for side openings on high chairs was proposed. The subcommittee decided to review this issue at its next meeting. Based on comments to the last ballot that was reviewed in 3/07, the requirement for passive crotch restraints was re-worded for clarity. This revision was included in an 8/17/07 subcommittee ballot. The ballot closes 9/17/07.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/08/07

Product Hot Tubs and Spas

Staff Contact Whitfield, Troy

Purpose To revise the *Standard for Electric Spas, Equipment Assemblies, and Associated Equipment* (UL 1563) to address safe temperatures for pregnant women.

Activities The UL Standards Technical Panel (STP) provided draft proposed language changes and labeling for the *Standard for Electric Spas, Equipment Assemblies, and Associated Equipment* (UL 1563) to be considered by the STP. This was an informal query of STP members to help further refine the proposals before balloting the changes. The draft proposals primarily focused on water temperature-regulating control requirements and tolerances. Draft proposals included comments on special needs users (e.g., pregnant women, elderly, children, etc.) and changes to the hazard signage. The proposal also discussed adding special water temperature settings above the CPSC staff recommended 104°F, which might be necessary to address accelerated heat loss when ambient temperatures are at or below freezing.

Next Action Participate in Standards Technical Panel meeting, not yet scheduled

Product Infant Bedding and Accessories

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To provide technical support to the ASTM F15.19 Subcommittee on Infant Bedding which has responsibility for maintaining the *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Infant Bedding and Related Accessories* (ASTM F1917).

Activities CPSC staff continued to monitor incident data for infant bedding in order to assess the adequacy of the current voluntary standard. During this reporting period, there was no subcommittee activity.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting, not yet scheduled (2008)

Product Infant Carriers, Frame

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To assist in revisions to the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Frame Child Carriers* (ASTM F2549) to minimize the risk of injuries to occupants of infant frame carriers.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Frame Child Carriers* (ASTM F 2549-06) was approved on 10/01/06. CPSC staff attended a 3/21/07 subcommittee meeting. The subcommittee reviewed the results of a ballot regarding the definition of a kickstand; further revisions to the definition are planned.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/10/07

Product Infant Carriers, Hand-Held

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Hand-Held Infant Carriers* (ASTM F2050) to minimize the risk of injuries to occupants.

Activities CPSC staff participated in a 3/22/07 subcommittee meeting. Staff presented handle integrity test data that was recently developed in CPSC staff testing. Due to recent incidents, a task group was formed to look at the requirements for handle integrity and to develop proposed requirements for subcommittee review.

Next Action Participate in task groups; attend subcommittee meeting on 10/10/07

Product Infant Carriers, Soft

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To provide technical support to the ASTM F15.21 Subcommittee which has responsibility for maintaining the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Soft Infant Carriers* (ASTM F2236).

Activities CPSC staff continued to monitor incident data for soft infant carriers to assess the adequacy of the current voluntary standard. During this reporting period, there was no subcommittee activity.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/10/07

Product Infant Tubs

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To develop a new safety standard to address the hazards associated with infant tubs.

Activities CPSC staff attended a 3/21/07 subcommittee meeting at which ballot results for a proposed new standard were reviewed. Two negative votes and several comments were received. CPSC staff participated in a task group developing the new standard, which included review and editing of the draft standard.

Next Action Reballot a revised draft standard; participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/09/07

Product Ladders

Staff Contact Caton, Tom

Purpose To provide technical support to the ANSI A14 Subcommittee for Ladder Safety and Ladder Standards. The standards included within this subcommittee's responsibility include: *Wood Ladders* (ANSI A14.1), *Portable Metal Ladders* (ANSI A14.2), *Portable Plastic Reinforced Ladders* (ANSI A14.5), *Portable Special Duty Ladders* (ANSI A14.10), and *Mobile Ladder Stands and Mobile Ladder Stand Platforms* (ANSI A14.7).

Activities CPSC staff participated in ANSI subcommittee meetings on 11/9/06 and 4/19/07. The subcommittee reviewed the final drafts of standards for:

- 1) ANSI A14.1 *Wood Ladders*
- 2) ANSI A14.2 *Portable Metal Ladders*
- 3) ANSI A14.5 *Portable Plastic Reinforced Ladders*

Some editorial changes were made to all three drafts for language consistency. It was anticipated that the revised standards will be published in 12/07. In addition, a new standard for *Step Stools* (ANSI A14.11) was being prepared for public review.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 11/18/07

Product	Lead in Children's Vinyl (PVC) Products
Staff Contact	Hatlelid, Kris
Purpose	To develop a new standard to address the hazards associated with lead in certain children's vinyl products.
Activities	In a 5/10/07 letter to ASTM, CPSC staff requested that ASTM establish a new activity to address the hazards associated with lead in children's vinyl products. Staff participated in an 8/9/07 ASTM organizational meeting, which resulted in forming the F15.62 Subcommittee on Lead in Children's Vinyl Products. A draft standard was distributed for review. Staff drafted comments, which were posted for public comment on the CPSC Web site on 9/27/07.
Next Action	Send staff comments on the new draft ASTM standard; participate in subcommittee meeting on 11/27/07
Product	Lighters
Staff Contact	Khanna, Rikki
Purpose	To monitor revisions to the <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Lighters</i> (ASTM F400) and the <i>Consumer Specification for Utility Lighters</i> (ASTM F2201) to reduce the fire hazard associated with mechanical failure.
Activities	CPSC staff participated in a 5/17/07 meeting of the ASTM F15.02 Subcommittee. Proposed changes to both ASTM F400-04 and ASTM F2201-02 were discussed with the purpose of making language consistent among the lighter standards and to clarify instructions and warnings (e.g., when to use "shall" and "as appropriate"). CPSC staff presented information on labeling based on requirements of the Federal Hazardous Substances Act (FHSA). Due to the nature of changes to attempt to make the language in the standards consistent with FHSA labeling requirements, the subcommittee agreed that proposed changes should be drafted for review and comment.
Next Action	Review proposed changes to standards, when available
Product	Mowers
Staff Contact	Murphy, John
Purpose	To revise the <i>Standard for Consumer Turf Care Equipment – Walk-Behind Mowers and Ride-On Machines with Mowers – Safety Specifications</i> (ANSI B71.1-2003) to improve its safety provisions.
Activities	CPSC staff continued to monitor voluntary standard activities associated with mowers. At the request of the ANSI B171.1 voluntary standard committee for Walk-Behind and Ride-On Machines with Mowers, CPSC staff provided injury and death data for the five-year period from 2002 through 2006.
Next Action	Continue monitoring ANSI B171.1 Committee activities

Product	National Electrical Code (NEC)
Staff Contact	Lee, Doug
Purpose	To revise the safety provisions of the National Fire Protection Association's <i>National Electrical Code</i> (NFPA 70, or <i>NEC</i>) to reduce electrical fires and shock associated with consumer products including appliances, electrical equipment, and wiring products.
Activities	CPSC staff participated in the National Fire Protection Association's Code Making Panel meetings for <i>NEC</i> Panels 2 and 17 (12/06) and the annual meeting (5/07). The CPSC staff proposal to extend GFCI protection for hard-wired boat hoists not exceeding 240V was unanimously accepted at the proposal stage and did not receive further comments. Proposals to extend Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupters (AFCIs) to dwelling unit living areas were accepted for the 2008 <i>National Electrical Code</i> .
Next Action	Develop code proposals for the 2011 <i>NEC</i> ; proposals due 11/7/08
Product	Paintball Markers
Staff Contact	Amodeo, Vince
Purpose	To develop new or revised ASTM safety standards for paintball markers and associated equipment/accessories.
Activities	<p>At an 11/15/06 subcommittee meeting, CPSC staff presented data on results of testing of paintball markers in accordance with existing ASTM paintball standards. A new task group was formed to review the standard for barrel blocking devices to address staff concerns. Other task groups (Airsoft/Low Energy, Low Velocity/ Foam Ball, and Paintball Marker) provided status reports on their activities.</p> <p>CPSC staff participated in a 5/22-24/07 subcommittee meeting, at which ballots for new draft standards were reviewed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>6mm Projectiles Used with Low Energy Air Guns</i>. A subcommittee ballot closed on 3/30/07 and was passed. 2) <i>Paintball Valve Male Threaded Connection for Use with Approved Cylinders</i>. This draft standard was developed to address CPSC staff concerns involving discharging paintball cylinders. A subcommittee ballot closed on 4/6/07 and passed with editorial changes. 3) <i>Standard Specification for Low Energy Air Gun (LEAG) Warnings</i>. A subcommittee ballot closed on 4/6/07 and was passed.
Next Action	Project completed

Product Playground Equipment (<2 Years Old)

Staff Contact Whitfield, Troy

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Public Use Play Equipment for Children 6 Months to 23 Months* (ASTM F2373). Such equipment often is found in childcare facilities.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Public Use Play Equipment for Children 6 Months to 23 Months* (ASTM F2373-06) was approved on 10/1/06. Further revision to the standard (ASTM F2373-07) was approved on 8/1/07. CPSC staff continued to provide technical support for this activity. Staff participated in a 1/29/07 subcommittee meeting, which focused on clarifications to the standard. Staff also participated in 9/10-11/07 subcommittee meetings to resolve negative ballot items and to address issues on terminology.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting, not yet scheduled

Product Playground Equipment (Home)

Staff Contact Whitfield, Troy

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Home Playground Equipment* (ASTM F1148) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities CPSC staff participated in subcommittee meetings on 1/30/07, 5/21/07, and 9/11/07. At the 5/07 meeting, negative responses and comments to a 3/6/07 subcommittee ballot were addressed. The ballot included items on overlapping play patterns and use zones, as well as ladder, step ladder, and stairway clarifications. There were still some outstanding items to be resolved before the next revision of the standard, including loading issues for climbers and slides. Another ballot, which closed on 9/10/07, was distributed. The results of the ballot were discussed at the 9/11/07 subcommittee meeting, and negative ballots were resolved. The subcommittee also discussed structural testing related to swing oscillation and dynamic swing testing (impact).

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting in 1/08

Product **Playground Equipment (Public)**

Staff Contact Whitfield, Troy

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Public Playground Equipment* (ASTM F1487) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Public Playground Equipment* (ASTM F1487-07) was approved on 3/1/07 and amended (ASTM F1487-07a) on 3/15/07. CPSC staff continued participation on the ASTM F15.29 Subcommittee on Playground Equipment for Public Use. The subcommittee met 1/31/07 and 9/12/07 to discuss and address ballot results. Task groups for accessibility, entrapment, falls, materials, and signage met to discuss ballot issues and terminology related to their groups.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting in 5/08 (est.)

Product **Playground Equipment (Soft)**

Staff Contact Whitfield, Troy

Purpose To revise the *Standard Safety Performance Specification for Soft Contained Playground Equipment* (ASTM F1918) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities At a 9/12/07 subcommittee meeting, proposed requirements for soft playground equipment that uses netting were discussed. Proposed requirements needed further review.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting in 1/08 (est.)

Product **Playground Surfacing**

Staff Contact McCallion, Rick

Purpose To revise ASTM standards associated with playground surfacing to reduce the risk of fall-related injuries, especially life-threatening head injuries. These standards include the *Standard Specification for Impact Attenuation of Surface Materials Within the Use Zone of Playground Equipment* (ASTM F1292), *Standard Specification for Determination of Firmness and Stability of Surface Systems Under and Around Playground Equipment* (ASTM F1951) and the *Standard Guide for ASTM Standards on Playground Surfacing* (ASTM F2223). The guide describes how to apply existing ASTM standards to evaluate impact attenuation, accessibility characteristics, and product characteristics when selecting surface systems for use under and around playground equipment.

Activities CPSC staff participated in an 11/15/06 ASTM F08.63 Subcommittee meeting. The subcommittee reviewed new comments received on the *Standard Specification for Determination of Firmness and Stability of Surface Systems Under and Around Playground Equipment* (ASTM F1951-99). Revisions to the *Standard Test Methods for Comprehensive Characterization of Synthetic Turf Playing Surfaces and Materials* (ASTM F1551-03) are ongoing.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 11/14/07

Product **Pool Alarms**

Staff Contact Whitfield, Troy

Purpose To revise the *Standard Specification for Pool Alarms* (ASTM F2208) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities A revised *Standard Specification for Pool Alarms* (ASTM F2208-07) was approved on 1/1/07. The revisions included removal of the basketball/surface disturbance test and a refined definition for the test dummy. On 1/24/07, CPSC staff sent a letter to ASTM with recommendations for further revisions to clarify some of the test procedures, based on inconsistent results during CPSC staff testing of pool alarms. ASTM responded by developing and balloting clarifications to some of the requirements. Following a 5/4/07 teleconference, changes were incorporated into the standard and balloted. The ballot closed on 9/10/07.

Next Action Review results of ballot, when available; participate in subcommittee meeting, not yet scheduled

Product Pool Suction (Vacuum) Release Devices

Staff Contact Whitfield, Troy

Purpose To revise the *Standard Specification for Manufactured Safety Vacuum Release Systems (SVRS) for Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs* (ASTM F2387) and the *Standard for Manufactured Safety Vacuum Release Systems (SVRS) for Residential and Commercial Swimming Pool, Spa, Hot Tub, Wading Pool Suction Systems* (ANSI/ASME A112.19.17) to strengthen their safety provisions.

Activities The *Standard for Suction Fittings for Use in Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs* (ANSI/ASME A112.19.8M) was revised on 2/5/2007. Updates included provisions to address hair entanglement and body entrapment. CPSC staff continues to review and test the protocols found in both the ASTM F2387 and ANSI/ASME A112.19.17 standards on safety vacuum release systems for swimming pools, spas, and hot tubs.

CPSC staff continued to participate in the exchange of information and analyses related to vent pipe test protocols being developed by a task group within the ASTM F15.51 Subcommittee. Discussions included the potential effects from various vent configurations. Some subcommittee members have expressed concerns regarding false-tripping and a proposed performance requirement (foot-shape test). A draft standard was sent to the task group for comment on 8/15/06. Depending upon comments, a ballot item was expected in 2007. A ballot for field fabricated vents for swimming pools closed on 12/4/06, and staff reviewed ballot results. Staff participated in an 8/21/07 meeting to discuss ballot results and redraft the standard. The draft standard will be circulated for subcommittee approval prior to issuing a ballot.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting, not yet scheduled

Product Pools and Spas

Staff Contact Whitfield, Troy

Purpose To develop or revise ANSI/Association of Pool and Spa Professionals (APSP) performance standards for swimming pool, spa and hot tub construction to reduce injury and drowning incidents, as well as to revise the *Standard Guide for Use of a Residential Swimming Pool, Spa, and Hot Tub Safety Audit to Prevent Unintentional Drownings* (ASTM F2518).

Activities CPSC staff continued to monitor incident data associated with pools and spas. Staff participated in an APSP-7 Writing Committee meeting on 9/21-22/07. As a result of discussions at the meeting, a ballot for revisions to the APSP standard is expected in 2008.

Next Action Review ballot, when available

Product **Portable Pools**

Staff Contact Whitfield, Troy

Purpose To develop a new *Standard Safety Specifications for Aboveground Portable Pools for Residential Use*, which includes one-piece vinyl, plastic, soft-sided, and inflatable pools.

Activities CPSC staff supported ASTM subcommittee activities including participation in an 11/15/06 meeting and a 1/16/07 teleconference to discuss the new draft standard. The draft specifies performance, labeling, and warning requirements. CPSC staff suggested language for inclusion in an Annex to the standard regarding layers of protection. Several items were being redrafted and balloted. The ballot closed on 9/10/07.

Next Action Review ballot results at subcommittee meeting, not yet scheduled

Product **Ranges**

Staff Contact Karen, Mike

Purpose To provide technical support for the development or revision of standards relating to household, free-standing ranges in order to reduce the potential tipover hazard to consumers.

Activities In a 7/26/07 letter to UL, CPSC staff requested that the UL 858 Standards Technical Panel (STP) for Household Electric Ranges meet to discuss free standing range stability. In an 8/22/07 response, the STP Chair initiated the formation of a task group to address the topic. CPSC staff will participate in task group activities.

Next Action Participate in task group meeting on 11/9/07

Product Scooters, Motorized

Staff Contact Amodeo, Vince

Purpose To provide technical assistance to the ASTM F15.58 Powered Scooters and Skateboards Subcommittee to develop or revise safety standards for motorized scooters.

Activities Two new draft standards were balloted:

- 1) *Specification for Safety Instructions and Labeling for Recreational Powered Scooters and Pocket Bikes*
- 2) *Consumer Safety Specification for Recreational Powered Scooters and Pocket Bikes*

The ballots closed on 11/6/06. The draft standards were revised to address negative votes and comments and were reballoted from 2/6/07 to 3/7/07. The draft standards were further revised to address additional negative votes and comments and were reballoted. The ballots closed on 7/16/07. There were no CPSC staff comments.

Next Action Review results of ballots for revised draft standards, when available

Product	Smoke Alarms
Staff Contact	Lee, Arthur
Purpose	To revise the <i>Standard for Single- and Multiple-Station Smoke Alarms (UL 217)</i> to improve consumer safety and to revise the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) <i>National Fire Alarm Code (NFPA 72)</i> .
Activities	<p>In 3/07, CPSC staff participated in panel meetings sponsored by the Fire Protection Research Foundation. The panel discussed fire alarm notification, audibility for the hearing impaired, and smoke characterization.</p> <p>CPSC staff is participating on the NFPA 72 Home Occupancy Usage (HOU) Task Group to evaluate the effectiveness of different smoke alarm sensors used in life safety. The draft scope of the task group was to evaluate new information and claims relative to the performance of specific types of smoke detection (ionization and photoelectric) and determine if the present NFPA 72 requirements for placement and usage of non-specific types of smoke detector sensors in smoke alarms provides adequate life safety. CPSC staff coordinated several teleconferences from 3/07 through 6/07 and a task group meeting on 8/2-3/07.</p> <p>CPSC staff participated in a 6/21/07 UL Standards Technical Panel (STP) meeting for the UL 217 standard. CPSC staff also participated in three task groups involving UL 217 to address nuisance alarms, audibility, and labeling.</p> <p>In 9/07, CPSC staff participated in a meeting (pre-Review of Proposals, or ROP) for the development of the next edition of NFPA 72.</p>
Next Action	Participate in UL 217 task group activities; participate in NFPA 72 HOU task group activities; participate in NFPA 72 ROP meeting (Winter/Spring 08)
Product	Sprinklers, Fire
Staff Contact	Khanna, Rikki
Purpose	To revise the codes and standards for residential fire sprinklers to improve safety requirements for products and installations.
Activities	CPSC staff monitored voluntary standards activities during the reporting period.
Next Action	Continue monitoring NFPA and UL sprinkler standards activities

Product	Strollers
Staff Contact	Hackett, Patty
Purpose	To revise the <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Carriages and Strollers</i> (ASTM F833) to strengthen the safety provisions.
Activities	A revised <i>Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Carriages and Strollers</i> (ASTM F833-07) was approved on 1/1/07, and an amendment (ASTM F833-07a) was approved on 2/1/07. CPSC staff participated in a 3/21/07 subcommittee meeting. A task group for occupant retention requirements (entrapment in passive containment/foot openings) discussed concerns regarding the current requirements.
Next Action	Participate in task group on entrapment; participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/10/07
Product	Table Saws
Staff Contact	Paul, Caroleene
Purpose	To revise the <i>Standard for Stationary and Fixed Electric Tools</i> (UL 987) to reduce the risk of laceration and amputation associated with table saw blade contact.
Activities	<p>On 10/20/06, the UL STP 987 working group members received proposals regarding new blade guard requirements for preliminary review and comment. CPSC staff suggested some editorial changes on 12/4/06.</p> <p>A 3/30/07 ballot on UL 987 included seven proposed changes, including a revision to the requirements for table saws for "construction of a guard and an antikickback device attached to a spreader or riving knife/spreader combination unit to avoid risk of injury." On 5/29/07, CPSC staff sent comments on the ballot to UL. The Power Tool Institute (PTI) responded to CPSC staff comments in a 6/26/07 letter, and they provided additional information and photos regarding blade guard requirements in an 8/6/07 e-mail to staff.</p> <p>Modifications to the blade guard requirement proposals were recirculated for comment on 9/7/07.</p>
Next Action	Send CPSC staff comments on blade guard requirements based on information received from PTI; comments due 10/22/07

Product Toddler Beds

Staff Contact Hackett, Patty

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toddler Beds* (ASTM F1821) to include corner post requirements and to update the standard's warning language.

Activities CPSC staff participated in a 3/22/07 ASTM F15.18 Subcommittee meeting. CPSC staff provided incident data for subcommittee review, which included two in-depth investigations of fatalities. One involved an inflatable toddler bed, and one involved an entrapment in the footboard. All of the incidents were discussed, and more than half involved bed rail entrapments. A task group was established to review this issue.

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting on 10/11/07

Product Toys

Staff Contact Amodeo, Vince

Purpose To revise the *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety* (ASTM F963) to strengthen its safety provisions.

Activities A revised *Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety* (ASTM F963-07) was approved on 3/15/07. Revisions included new requirements for labeling and testing of magnet toys, cords and elastics, yo-yo tether toys, and packaging film. Other draft requirements addressing jaw entrapment hazards, impaction hazards, flammability, and folding mechanisms that were included in the ballot that closed on 1/24/07 were not approved for the revised standard. (ASTM F963-07e1, containing editorial changes, was approved on 7/1/07.)

Staff participated in a 2/12/07 subcommittee meeting, at which the task group on magnet toys was requested to review label wording and age grading, magnet strength, magnet size, and use and abuse requirements. CPSC staff participated in this task group, which met via telephone conference on 6/27/07, 8/10/07, and 9/14/07.

CPSC staff also participated in an 8/14/07 subcommittee meeting and reviewed the results of a 6/15/07 ballot including items on impaction and flammability hazards. Task groups on magnets, projectiles, and yo-yo tether toys reported the status of their activities. Several provisions were also balloted at the main committee level: jaw entrapment (ballot closed on 5/17/07), folding mechanisms (ballot closed on 7/16/07), and flammability (ballot closed on 9/10/07).

Next Action Participate in subcommittee meeting in 10/07 (est.); review ballot for magnet toys when available

Product Treestands

Staff Contact Karen, Mike

Purpose To provide technical support for the development or revision of standards for hunting treestands and associated equipment to reduce hazards to consumers.

Activities At a 1/17/07 ASTM F08.16 Subcommittee meeting, CPSC staff requested that the subcommittee expand the standard for fall arrest systems (safety harnesses) to address self rescue. In a 2/27/07 teleconference between CPSC staff, subcommittee members, and representatives of the Treestand Manufacturers Association (TMA), TMA agreed to evaluate suspension/pressure relief approaches and methods.

In 4/07, a TMA self-rescue task force was finalized. The objectives of this task force are to re-examine the current safety procedures pertaining to treestand harnesses, largely to determine if self-rescue measures should be incorporated into the harness-related standards. TMA is proposing to add suspension relief device requirements to its standards and the task group has agreed to incorporate suspension relief as one self-rescue option. The TMA board agreed to propose both of these standard revisions to the membership for a vote.

CPSC staff reviewed and commented on a draft version of an incident reporting form for treestand-related incidents.

Next Action Continue to monitor standards-related activities

Product Turkey Fryers

Staff Contact Khanna, Rikki

Purpose To revise the *Standard for Outdoor Cooking Specialty Gas Appliances* (ANSI Z21.89/CSA 1.18) to reduce fire hazards associated with turkey fryers/boilers.

Activities CPSC staff provided updated incident data on turkey fryer injuries to the Technical Advisory Group (TAG). The TAG drafted language to describe the requirements for temperature limiting devices. The standard will require a "device" that will not allow cooking oil temperatures to exceed 475 degrees F. This requirement passed public review and comment and was included in the latest addenda to the standard with an effective date of 7/1/07.

Additional revisions to the Turkey Fryer Oil Temperature Test were proposed to prevent an increase in oil temperature when gas flow is modulated, and provide a safety factor in the event of a manual reset error by a user during the heating process. Another proposal was introduced that would not allow a fryer to operate unless the cooking vessel supplied by the manufacturer was used, since correct operation of a temperature limiting device may be dependant on vessel features (e.g., volume, oil level markings). CPSC staff completed an evaluation of fryers currently on the market.

Next Action Provide the results of CPSC staff testing of turkey fryers to the TAG when available

Product **Vented Gas Appliances, CO Sensors**

Staff Contact Jordan, Ron

Purpose To revise the standards for gas appliances to include requirements to address the carbon monoxide hazard. The standards include: *Gas-Fired Central Furnaces* (ANSI Z21.47), *Gas-Fired Low Pressure Steam and Hot Water Boilers* (ANSI Z21.13), *Vented Gas-Fired Space Heating Appliances* (ANSI Z21.86), and *Vented Gas Fireplace Heaters* (ANSI Z21.88).

Activities CPSC staff participated in a 9/25/07 meeting of the ANSI Z21/83 Committee. Staff also participated in a telephone conference of the Z21.47 Central Furnace Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on 09/12/07. The furnace TAG disapproved a proposal to add a requirement to ANSI Z21.47 that furnace installation manuals (Section 1.24) and user's information manuals (Section 1.26) include instructions that address snow blockage of exhaust and intake vents and the related CO exposure hazard. The proposal was in response to an incident involving snow blockage and two CO poisoning deaths. The proposal was sent back to a working group to provide less vague language.

During this period, CPSC staff began a contract to have furnaces equipped with CO sensors undergo testing in accordance with the corrosion test provisions in the *Standard for Gas-Fired Central Furnaces* (ANSI Z21.47). The purpose of this testing is to expose the sensors to furnace operating conditions and accelerate the life of the sensors in order to assess sensor durability and longevity. This approach is in response to concerns raised by members of the ANSI Z21/83 Committee about the durability and longevity of sensors if used within furnaces. The results will be shared with the ANSI Z21/83 Committee.

Next Action Participate in ANSI Z21.13 Boiler TAG meeting, not yet scheduled