

A. Stinson

MEETING LOG

Date : March 16, 1995  
Place : 200 Fifth Avenue  
Purpose : Meeting of the "Under 3" Work Group of the ASTM Toy Safety Subcommittee  
Attendees : Betsy Borelli (TA), Malcolm Denniss (Hasbro), David Miller (TA), Frank Olbrych (Lego), Marilyn Wind (CPSC), and Karl Wojon (Mattel)

This work group meeting dealt with fine tuning the proposed voluntary requirements for small toy figures and pompoms.

Pompoms

After the last work group meeting, several toy manufacturers who use pompoms were approached with the proposed requirement and asked for comments. Clarification of what a pompom actually is was requested. One individual asked if a tassel would be considered a pompom. Since the members of the group felt that a tassel in which there were long free strands did not pose a risk the way pompoms brushed into a ball shape do, the group decided that a tassel would not be included in the requirement. Since it was difficult to define in words clearly what would and wouldn't be covered, it was decided that there would be some illustrations of what we considered covered and what would not be covered. Another individual asked whether the requirement would include fabric sewn into a ball shape. It was decided that the requirement should include that.

Some people questioned the use of a 1.75 inch test fixture. However, the work group concluded that since the hazard being dealt with was similar to that of a ball, it was reasonable to use the same test fixture as was being used for balls.

A discussion ensued about the test method. The method to be used would be similar to the tension test currently in the voluntary standard.

Small Toy Figures

The small toy figure requirement decided on at the last meeting was discussed. There was some discussion about the fear that the Europeans would see this new requirement as something that should replace the small parts requirement. Since the small parts requirement and this requirement address two very different hazards, it was decided that this requirement should be placed in the voluntary standard in the same area as rattles, squeeze toys, and teethers. Placing it with rattles, squeeze toys, and teethers would make it clear that this is not a small parts hazard that is being dealt with but rather a hazard similar to

↓

that posed by rattles, squeeze toys, and teethers. With respect to this similarity, we then discussed why we weren't recommending the same test fixture that is used for rattles, squeeze toys, and teethers and decided that based upon a review of the incident data that a 1.5 inch test fixture was appropriate.

These proposals will now be brought to a meeting of the full Toy Safety Sub-Committee. It is not clear when that meeting will be. There are other work groups dealing with other issues and it was felt that a full sub-committee meeting should deal with the issues from all the work groups together.