RWF Task Group on Safety Surfacing

Teleconference Meeting Summary DRAFT

May 3, 2022

Participating members:

Life Floor	Keller, Jonathan
Canadian Playground Advisory Inc.	Huber, Rolf
Vortex Aquatic Structures International	Laurin, Marc-Andre
IAPMO	Palkon, Thomas
Waterplay Solutions	Scott, Dennis
Conestoga College	Stanley, Ralph

Participating observers:

SEA, Ltd.	Amenson, PhD, MPH, Tara
National Recreation and Park Association	Boland, Julie
IAPMO	Choe, Sung
National Recreation and Park Association	Gonzales, Elizabeth
Consultant	Hamil, Elizabeth
Life Floor	Howell, Brian
NSF International	Snider, Jason

Discussion

J. Keller welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. J. Snider took roll and read the anti-trust statement. Six of the 13 voting members were present (46%) which did not represent a quorum.

J. Keller began by reviewing some information J. Snider had drafted regarding Third party validation. J. Keller reminded the group that the standard exists to server as validation of performance. J. Snider encouraged everyone to utilize the NSF knowledge library for information on topics at https://www.nsf.org/knowledge-library.

J. Keller asked the group to consider what the next steps would be – perhaps adding additional injury prevention testing for increased fall heights, reduction of concussions, or something else? R. Huber asked if the standard would state that concrete use was acceptable. J. Keller responded that the scope clarification ballot had been approved and was part of the standard. R. Huber suggested the group needed to define safe and safety, adding that the group should also consider what level of Gs to use, as the ASTM standards use 200 Gs, which may be excessive for this application. J. Keller noted that the standard does not make injury reduction claims, but rather looks to provide validation of manufacturers claims, and added that the goal should be to test aspects of safety, but not define safety. R. Huber suggested the group consider using ASTM 3351 for drop height testing. R. Huber explained that the standard uses a 3-temperature test, testing impact attenuation at 24, 71, and 120° F. There was discussion about what a test chamber for this testing would need, and if the sample size should be revised. S. Choe offered to share the IAPMO lab's capabilities for this test with the group. R. Huber asked if elongation testing should also be considered. He also noted that how seams are addressed will need to be considered for the impact attenuation testing. The group discussed the 3-temperature testing, and if the temperatures should be used for this proposed testing. R. Huber noted that some surfaces perform poorly in higher temperatures, and that some other international standards were considering a 150° F test. The group discussed how some features could be used in ways other than they were intended (for example, children climbing on surfaces and features not intended to be used in this manner) and how this risk could affect operators. J. Keller and R. Huber agreed to meet offline to draft language based on the ASTM 3351 testing discussed.

Action items

J. Keller and R. Huber to meet offline to draft language based on the ASTM 3351 testing discussed.
S. Choe & J. Keller to research into feasibility of larger test chamber to accommodate larger samples
Next teleconference: June 7, 2022.