



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
4330 EAST WEST HIGHWAY  
BETHESDA, MD 20814

September 29, 2015

Mr. Philip Monckton  
ASTM F15.10 Subcommittee Chairman  
Vice President, Sales and Marketing  
Scepter Canada, Inc.  
170 Midwest Road  
Scarborough, ON M1P 3A9  
Tel: 416-751-9445  
Email: [PMonckton@scepter.ca](mailto:PMonckton@scepter.ca)

Re: Progress on the development of a Flame Mitigation Device performance test method for portable gasoline containers

Dear Mr. Monckton:

Flame Mitigation Devices (FMDs), such as flame arrestors, on consumer flammable liquid containers can help prevent many explosion scenarios across many different products.<sup>1</sup> The work that ASTM International (ASTM) Subcommittee F15.10 on Standards for Flammable Liquid Containers (F15.10) is doing to develop a performance test method for FMDs on portable gasoline containers is important, and the U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC, the Commission) would like to help facilitate its progress.

ASTM F15.10 first considered FMD technology in May 2007.<sup>2</sup> A task group was formed to solicit proposals<sup>3</sup> and, in 2008, ASTM awarded a contract to Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) to study FMDs. In March<sup>4</sup> and December of 2010, ASTM F15.10 met to discuss the progress of the WPI work, including a prototype test method. In September 2012, WPI provided ASTM F15.10 with a plan for a finalized test method for FMDs. In February 2014, ASTM F15.10 met to discuss the WPI FMD test results.<sup>5</sup> In February 2015, CPSC staff met with the task group to discuss additional testing issues.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The comments in this letter are those of the CPSC staff and have not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the views of, the Commission.

<sup>2</sup> CPSC Log of Meeting, May 31, 2007, <http://www.cpsc.gov/PageFiles/88348/flamearresters.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> CPSC Log of Meeting, August 21, 2008, [http://www.cpsc.gov/pagefiles/87641/portfuel8\\_21.pdf](http://www.cpsc.gov/pagefiles/87641/portfuel8_21.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> CPSC Log of Meeting, March 31, 2010, <http://www.cpsc.gov/pagefiles/84192/astm15flamm.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> CPSC Log of Meeting, February 19, 2014, <http://www.cpsc.gov/Media/Documents/FOIA/Meeting-Logs/2014/ASTM-F1510-Task-Group-Meeting-on-Portable-Containers/>

<sup>6</sup> CPSC Log of Meeting, February 26, 2015, <http://www.cpsc.gov/Media/Documents/FOIA/Meeting-Logs/2015/ASTM-F1510-Gasoline-Container-Flame-Mitigation-Device-Meeting/>

Since February 2015, ASTM F15.10 has not held any public meetings to update and discuss the status of the FMD performance test work. CPSC staff is interested in this work and would like to help facilitate its progress. To that end, we are offering to host a meeting of the ASTM F15.10 with the task group at our National Product Testing and Evaluation Center (NPTEC) in Rockville, MD to discuss the current status of the FMD performance test method and what needs to be done to complete this work.

I look forward to your reply. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 301-987-2030, or [sayers@cpsc.gov](mailto:sayers@cpsc.gov).

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Ayers', written in a cursive style.

Scott Ayers, P.E.  
ASTM F15.10 Staff Liaison

Cc: Leonard Morrissey, Director, Technical Committee Operations, ASTM  
International  
Colin Church, CPSC Voluntary Standards Coordinator  
Angela Heggs, CPSC Office of the Secretary, Docket Manager