

**THE JOINT INDUSTRY FABRIC STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
COMMITTEE MINUTES
SHERATON AIRPORT, CHARLOTTE, NC
January 30, 2002**

NOTE: All exhibits referenced in the minutes are on file in the AFMA office

- I Chairperson Hugh Talley called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.
- II Self-introductions of attendees were made
- III The sign up sheet was circulated for members present
- IV The Joint Industry Fabric Standards are available at www.afma4u.com
- V **FLAMMABILITY**

California will release draft of flammability standard this month. CPSC has issued draft statement. Final flammability standard will be issued in due time; however, contents are still uncertain. Furniture manufacturers and mills must be involved in flammability standards development in order to include our criteria.

VI **ATMI**

No report

VII **ASTM**

ASTM Seminar to be held in Dallas next month on improvement in abrasion testing.

VIII **FOLLOW-UP ON TIERED STANDARDS**

The committee records do not reflect a reconciliation of all negative ballots on the tiered standards.

The July 21, 1997 memo regarding the ballot on tiered standards was redistributed.

IX **REPORT FROM TASK GROUP ON STANDARDIZATION OF PATTERN REPEATS**

Furniture manufacturers' merchandising representatives approved 1/4" increments. There were some concerns from the mill representatives that hitting price points, testing standards and 1/4" increments would limit the creativity of the mill designers. Dave Petty will write up a ballot to approve a guideline approach to standardization of repeats for plaid patterns only in 1/4" increments. The mill designers will be asked to design plaids using this guideline in mind.

X REPORT ON ROLL LENGTH WRITE-UP

Bob Beaty and Bettie Thompson will finalize roll length standard write-up for publication.

XI DISCUSSION OF PROBLEM SURVEYS

Each committee member completed a prioritization of his or her present problems.

XII DISCUSSION OF ASTM ROUND ROBIN ON ABRASION

David Ryan was not present and the discussion was tabled.

XIII CHENILLE SEAM SLIPPAGE

Several manufacturers are experiencing problems with chenille's with seam slippage in the field. One issue is that product that is tested and approved becomes inconsistent. Each committee member should bring as many samples of chenille failures as possible to the next meeting. Also, any manufacturers who have field data for the year 2001 for field failures should bring this information as well.

XIV DEAM SEAM FATIGUE TEST PROBLEMS

Judy Fay proposed a round robin on poly that represents the seating most manufacturers are using (1.7 + or - .1 foam density IFD 24-30 lb.) The round robin would use known slippage patterns and sent to participants with specific test methods prepared by the committee. The participating companies will be: Action, Culp, Quaker, La-Z-Boy, Eagle Mountain Finishing, Schnadig and STF.

Henry Salabien demonstrated a light box as a tool to determine degree of seam slippage. The purpose of this demonstration was to take some subjectivity out of the interpretation of the test results.

XV MARKING FLAWS

Esther Timko demonstrated methods of marking flaws that can be used with automated equipment to stop the equipment. However, the mills' experience has been that the stickers do not stick to the fabric.

XVI Adjourn