August 24, 2021

TO SEI NOCSAE PARTICIPANTS:

SEI Certification Bulletin #30
Standards Update and Baseball Compliance Level Change

This bulletin will serve to provide updates relevant to the SEI NOCSAE Certification Program, such as recent NOCSAE standard activity and other certification related topics.

SEI staff was in attendance during the NOCSAE Summer Standards Committee meeting held in Miami, Florida on July 24, 2021. Additionally, SEI and NOCSAE staff met for a separate meeting on July 23rd, as is our established practice. As a result, SEI is providing below a summary of the standards development and certification activity taken during those meetings.

NOCSAE STANDARDS ACTIVITY

NOCSAE confirmed the following standard modifications, and revisions during the Summer 2021 Standards Committee meeting. Please note that “Modified” standards do not typically include substantive changes which could potentially affect the ability of the currently certified product(s) to meet the standard. However, “Revisions” are typically substantive changes to the performance requirements or test methods which could potentially affect the ability of the currently certified product(s) to meet the revised standard. Product compliance with the revised standards will be handled as noted below (where applicable) in an effort to complete all standard revision submittals prior to the designated effective date(s).

Modified Standards
ND081-18am21 Standard Linear Impactor Test Method and Equipment Used in Evaluating Performance Characteristics of Protective Headgear and Faceguards.
- Added tolerances for angle and measurement values
- Added specifications for equipment used for youth helmet testing
- Added reference to 5th Percentile Hybrid III User’s Manual
- Updated Pneumatic Ram Figure

ND201-21 Laboratory Procedural Guide for Certifying Newly Manufactured for Protectors for Commotio Cordis
- Added tolerances for angle and measurement values
- Added specifications for equipment used for used for youth helmet testing

Revised Standards
ND200-21 Standard Test Method and Performance Specification Used in Evaluating the Performance of Protectors for Commotio Cordis
- The content of the standard revisions which were adopted in January 2021 were discussed at length, with input from different parties. Additionally, a vote was taken to postpone the Effective Date of this standard to February 1, 2023.
- After the end of NOCSAE’s designated 30-day comment period following a Standards Committee vote (i.e., August 24, 2021) SEI will begin accepting certification submittals to ND200-21.
- REVISION: Eliminated use of the upper and lower load cells and their associated pass/fail criteria
- REVISION: Random impact locations updated to impact the center of the cardiac silhouette while shifting the protector instead of moving the NTS
- REVISION: Added definitions for Torso Length and Extent of Protective Coverage
- REVISION: Added requirement that manufacturers shall provide Torso Length of the person the submitted sample is intended to fit
- REVISION: Added a section (12) on positioning of the product for testing and the use of fitting instructions (Note: This revision is not listed in the appendix of the standard.)

In order to facilitate the necessary action(s) involved with fully adopting NOCSAE DOC ND200-21, SEI will continue to communicate any new developments to all of the constituents (i.e., safety equipment users, the various sports governing bodies, manufacturers of commotion cordis protectors, and the SEI/NOCSAE approved contract testing laboratories.)

Compliance Level Change - ND027 Standard Performance Specification for Newly Manufactured Baseballs

NOCSAE is in the process of preparing a modification to the compliance level of the NOCSAE DOC (ND) 027-18 Standard Performance Specification for Newly Manufactured Baseballs standard from NOCSAE Level 3 to NOCSAE Level 2. Based upon the current standard (i.e., ND027-18), SEI/NOCSAE certified baseball (Type ‘High’) models have been required to meet the ongoing QA/QC testing requirements of the compliance level (i.e., Level 3). In anticipation of the impending standard modification, SEI and NOCSAE have determined that an immediate announcement can be made to inform Participants of this action. The aforementioned action allows Participants to immediately submit to SEI revised QA/QC plan(s) demonstrating compliance with the NOCSAE Level 2 equipment QA/QC requirement(s) for product models certified to ND027-18, section 6.3, and allow for subsequent implementation of the revised plan(s) (if accepted) before the official standard modification is in effect.

COVID-19

Due to recent developments including emergence of the Delta Variant, surges in COVID-19 cases, and resulting government mandated closures throughout Asia, SEI continues to determine Participants’ eligibility for remote/virtual audits on a case-by-case basis. Additionally, SEI continues to solicit feedback from Participants with regard to their ability to host onsite audit(s) at headquarters and manufacturing facilities. If your company has an established a policy for outside visitors, travel, etc., please share those allowances/restrictions with SEI’s Quality Manager, Kate McDonald (kmcdonald@seinet.org), and SEI Program Manager, David Petit (dpetit@seinet.org).

We hope you have found this bulletin to be helpful. Please do not hesitate to call or write with any questions.

Sincerely,

Anna Seiple
Program Director
703-442-5732 Ext. 4010

cc: SEI Staff
SEI Quality Auditors
SEI Approved Laboratories
NOCSAE
SFIA
USA Lacrosse
NFHS