

UNIT 7, KNIGHTCOTT INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, BANWELL BS29 6JN

TEL: +44 (0)1934 822420

EMAIL: info@kss-pendulum.co.uk

WEB: www.kss-pendulum.co.uk

Att: Mr J. Sotter
Safety Direct America
26705 Loma Verde
Mission Viejo
CA 92691
California
United States of America

Per email: john.sotter@safetydirectamerica.com

7th February 2025

Dear John,

Re: TEST METHODS

I refer to the enquiry you made, and I can confirm that static coefficient of friction test methods is not being used in the United Kingdom or by us. The UK Slip Resistance Group (UKSRG), of which we are members, Guidelines state, and I quote from them:

1.3 General principles

The United Kingdom Slip Resistance Group (UKSRG) and the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) currently recommend the use of two types of instruments for the assessment of slip resistance6, the pendulum which measures slip resistance directly and an appropriate roughness meter (including non-contact types) which can measure the roughness parameter, Rz.

1.4 Why the pendulum?

The pendulum has been chosen by the UKSRG and the HSE for three main reasons. First, it reproduces the same hydrodynamic uplift characteristics that occur when a person slips in liquid-contaminated conditions. Second, good correlation between the readings given by the instrument and the incidence of pedestrian slipping accidents has been observed since the 1950s. Third, the pendulum can be used to make measurements on a wide range of pedestrian surfaces both in situ and in the laboratory. It has been specified in a number of British and European Standards for many years.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Roberts Director

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