

### PRODUCT & SAFETY SPECIFICATIONS

PhunZone™ designed structures meet appropriate sections of the ASTM international Standards F-1487, F-1918 and F-2373.

Play structure systems designed with components that have been safely used since 1978 in private residences and commercial child development and child activity facilities around the world. The systems have an excellent and proven safety track record and are considered among the safest multi-level system for the pre-school age group.

The primary components are UV treated high density thermoplastics (Polyethylene and Polypropylene) tubes, connectors and panels.

- 1. The tubes are 5 cm (2") in diameter and available in various lengths from 10cm 75 cm (4" 30").
- 2. The connectors are in various configurations from 2-way to 6-way.
- 3. Aluminum reinforcement inserts inside tubes provide additional strength and rigidity where needed
- 4. Standard panels are designed to carry a vertical safe load of 50kg (110 lbs) per panel
- 5. The tubes and connectors are locked together with a patented screw clip system
- 6. Plexiglass panels are 1/4 standard plexiglass

**ASTM** (American Society for Testing of Materials) **CPSC** (Consumer Product Safety Commission)

ASTM/CPSC state that the majority of accidents at public playgrounds resulted from falls, primarily to the surface on which the equipment was located. Other hazard patterns involved impact by swings and other moving equipment, collisions with stationary equipment, contact with protrusions, sharp edges, hot surfaces and severe injuries or death from head entrapment, entanglement of clothing, impact from equipment tip-over or structural failure.

By virtue of its designs and applications, Phunzone<sup>TM</sup> designed structures avoid "all" of these hazards. The key safety categories that have been addressed include:

- stability
- maintenance
- materials
- hardware
- hazards
- platforms, guardrails, barriers
- types of playground equipment
- slides

The PhunZone™ playcenters many excellent safety features to provide maximum safety for children:

- there are no sharp edges, protruding bolts nuts or screws;
- materials will not rust, warp or rot;
- no entrapment hazards;
- all vertical levels are less than 2 feet;
- adequate railings and barriers are provided for platforms and walkways;
- the straight and curved slides have safe side-wall heights and run-outs;
- safe to use in water;
- easy replacement of worn or damaged components

Exceptions to the ASTM standards are limited to minor issues such as railing diameter, slide exit hood and anchoring and do not affect the safety of the children. The ASTM safety standards were created without consideration of the modular design offered by Phunzone™ and focus primarily on the 24/7, outdoor, public playground for the 2-12 age.

### Certification

Many States now require safety certification of playcenters. Since there are minor variances between the Phunzone™ designs and ASTM standards, we recommend the following section of ASTM 1487 be considered as a general guideline:

#### ASTM

"3.1.24 professional judgement - the ability of an individual with current knowledge, skill or experience or both, in the field of playgrounds/playground equipment design, use or operations, which enables the person to form an opinion or make a decision, or both, concerning a matter within the field of expertise"

#### **CPSC**

"Because many factors may affect playground safety, the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission believes that the guidelines, rather than a mandatory rule are appropriate. The guidelines are not a mandatory standard. Therefore, the Commission is not endorsing these guidelines as the sole method to minimize injuries associated with playground equipment."

## **Age Appropriate**

ASTM and CPSC both strongly recommend that there should be separate play equipment for the three major age groups. Phunzone<sup>TM</sup> focuses exclusively on meeting the need of the under 5 age groups.

| Age Groups  | ASTM Standard   | Phunzone Designs |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 6-23 months | F-2373          | YES              |
| 2-5 years   | F-1487 & F-1918 | YES              |
| 6-12 years  | F-1487          | NO               |

We do not offer designs which include the "School Age Group" (5-12)

# **Temperature range:**

Phunzone™ structures are primarily marketed to the "indoor" facilities, however, should outdoor use be selected, we recommend the following guidelines.

Outdoor heat: not recommended for play above  $90^{\circ}$  F ( $32^{\circ}$  C) (Best used in a shaded area) Outdoor cold: not recommended for play below  $0^{\circ}$  F ( $-18^{\circ}$  C)

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## **PHUNZONE**