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## Mr Jean Wenger MIEW RPII<sup>AM</sup>

Jean Wenger, with 40 years' experience on children's playground facilities, is a foremost provider of technical advice within the UK and Europe. While focusing on the UK, his advice is far and wide. Jean, aside from his extensive British and European Standards involvement, has worked in the USA, Canada, Croatia, Hawaii, Ireland, Germany and China.

A designer by training, Jean as Technical Director of the National Playing Fields Association (now Fields in Trust), delivered internationally recognised expertise for this influential charity for 25 years before moving on in 2004 to the private sector to further his objectives of improving quality provision. Through his company, Active Risk Management Services Ltd. Jean delivers his substantial expert experience on children's play, sport and gymnasium provision.

Jean inaugurated the European Playground Standards (EN1176 EN1177), which he chaired for many years. As a British and European Standards member of the following committees, he actively continues to pursue quality and provision improvements.

- British Standards - SW/065 Children's playground equipment and surfacing
- British Standards - SW/065/01 Parkour play equipment
- British Standards - SW/065/02 Freely Accessible Exercise Equipment (Chairman & Convenor – BSI committee)
- European standards – TC136WG26 Outdoor adult fitness equipment (Chairman & Convenor – CEN committee)
- European standards - TC136SC1-WG12 Play for All (disability & play)
- British Standards - CW/015 Safety of Toys (including activity play equipment toys)
- British Standards - SW/136 Sports, playground and other recreational equipment (sport and play controlling committee)

Jean is a full member of the Institute of Expert Witnesses and provides detailed reports to solicitors, with oral court work, on difficult accident cases. He also delivers guidance to NGOs, Government departments, Embassies, and is a board-level advisor to Surrey Playing Fields. Jean assists many other concerned bodies and provides counsel on risk in play provision.

With three other organisations, Jean at the NPFA set up and chaired for many years the internationally respected Register of Play Inspectors International Ltd (RPII), providing examination systems to enable confirmation of a person's competence in play inspections. Jean provides training for inspectors wishing to hold the prestigious RPII Inspectors Routine or Operational qualification. Jean, as an RPII Examiner, is registered to examine candidates for the full range of RPII Inspection qualifications. Jean is qualified, by written and practical examination, to the highest level for playground inspections and is a most knowledgeable authority on children's play facilities and equipment provision.

Dissemination of the knowledge and experience that he has obtained throughout his career has been a significant outcome. In addition to Jean's work on British and European Standards, he has produced, through the co-authoring, writing and editing, many publications and articles. These include NPFA Cost Guides, Technical Advice Notes, plus books on Impact Absorbing Surfacing and Floodlighting of Outdoor Sports Facilities and Can Play – Will Play, Playgrounds for disabled children.

Jean also vice-chaired the National Turf-grass Council and was secretary of the Goaldiggers charity that promoted the provision of hard-surfaced football 'kick-about' areas. Areas of international work include the provision of technical advice for international artificial sports surfacing and gymnastic and health equipment companies.

With his considerable expertise and experience, Jean is sought after, to contribute to influential groupings, when he is not taking forward the work of Active Risk Management Services Ltd, of which he is Director. Jean, through his company, undertakes detailed assessments and inspections of play, sport and recreation facilities for large and small authorities as well as national organisations. His wide and experienced approach keeps Jean well appraised of advances and problems at all levels.