Overview
Because of an obsolete component in the manufacture of the vinyl flesh for the FTSS harmonized brand SID-IIs head skin, Humanetics will start producing the head flesh using the brown harmonized vinyl agreed upon by the ATD Harmonization Task Group. These parts may begin shipping immediately.

Background
During the March 14th ATD Harmonization meeting, the worldwide group voted unanimously to harmonize the vinyl material utilized throughout the current family of ATD's.

Current Status
Humanetics offers one brand of SID-IIs head skin based on the FTSS version.

Summary of Improvements
The general vinyl flesh formulations of each brand are very similar; both the Denton and FTSS material use the same resins, plasticizers, and stabilizers. Both brands of vinyl are manufactured by the same vendor with slight variations in plasticizer concentration and color pigment. One of the plasticizer components of the FTSS brand head skin vinyl is becoming obsolete because of environmental concerns, making it necessary to introduce an improved harmonized vinyl on the SID-IIs head skin as soon as possible.

A reduction in vinyl trimming, less long term vinyl shrinkage, fewer surface imperfections and a higher tear strength are some of the many benefits with the harmonized vinyl. The brown hue is derived from the European color used on ATD's such as the EuroSID-2 side impact dummy and will help distinguish harmonized parts from many of the current Denton and FTSS versions. Certification testing has been very similar based on recent round robin testing between labs and Humanetics own internal engineering test results.

Conclusion
The slight differences in color, material composition, and durometer between the Denton and the FTSS brands of vinyl flesh have added to the existing dummy variation that the Harmonization group has been tasked to eliminate. Using the harmonization decision, Humanetics has determined that it is necessary to begin using a harmonized vinyl material on the SID-IIs head skin immediately to eliminate a delay in customer orders. The certification test results for the harmonized material have been comparable to the current FTSS brand vinyl.

Humanetics has been refining the molding process for all molded vinyl components to help improve the overall quality of its products and will continue to do so as the harmonization decisions become integrated into the Humanetics portfolio of product offerings.