

**U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
LOG OF TELEPHONE CALL**

SUBJECT: ASTM Torch Fuel and Lamp Oil Teleconference

DATE OF TELEPHONE CALL: August 27, 2013

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Sharon White, ESHF

CPSC PARTICIPANT(S):

John Boja, CRE
Adrienne Layton, HS
Samantha Li, EC
Craig O'Brien, HA
Patty Pollitzer, OGC
Sharon White, ESHF

NON-CPSC PARTICIPANT(S): Contact ASTM for participant(s) list.

SUMMARY OF TELEPHONE CALL:

This meeting was led by the chairman of the F15-02 Subcommittee on lighters. The primary purpose of the meeting was to determine whether a voluntary standards approach is appropriate to address the risk of injury to young children from torch fuel and lamp oil specifically as it relates to the hazards involving the color and design of the packaging, the color and smell of torch fuel and lamp oil, and the use and design of containers principally intended to house or use torch fuel and oil (i.e., oil lamp). The Commissioners requested these issues be addressed in a voluntary standard in response to petition PP11-1, Petition to require torch fuel and lamp oil be packaged in non-see through containers.

The telephone conference is summarized as follows:

- Sharon White summarized the Executive Summary of the briefing package on the Torch Fuel and Lamp Oil Petition at the request of the Chairman.
- A comment was made that oil burning devices that would hold and use these fuels are large in number. Some of these devices include camping equipment, household candles, wine bottle oil candle, and others. Therefore, the scope would be quite large.
- Health Canada explained how they handle packaging of their products. The original containers, clear or opaque, must have warnings and child resistant

packaging (CRP). Secondary containers- lamp oil devices, oil holders, and torches must have CRP when not in use. Oil lamps must have the same warnings as on the package of lamp oil. Floating wicks and empty wine bottles do not have labels so they advise the public which is challenging.

- Lamplight mentioned that they have repackaged their torch fuel in black plastic containers. The product packaging is child resistant and has the required warnings. The firm has also removed the yellow die from torch fuel so that if the product is transferred to another container it will not look like apple juice. The color of the torch fuel is now gray.
- A comment was made that the EU requires a wick guard (straw-like) so a child cannot suck the wick.
- CPSC staff asked Lamplight if they have black plastic containers in the shape of a water bottle or food-like container. Staff remarked that they found black opaque water bottles on a website during an internet search and that a child may confuse torch fuel that may be in a black water bottle-shaped container for a water bottle. CPSC staff discussed changing the shape of the container so that it does not resemble a beverage or food-shaped container. A comment was made that if the shape of the container was changed so that it was non-food-like, the food industry may copy the shape and the container will no longer be non-food-shaped. Additionally, it was stated that it will be hard to find a non-food shaped container and that it may stifle design.
- It was mentioned that existing standards/regulations as discussed could be used as a starting point for standards development.
- ASTM members discussed the issue of whether to expand the scope of F15-02 or create a new group to address these issues. It was mentioned that the F15-02 subcommittee lacks the expertise to address these products. Therefore, the plan is to determine if a new F15 subcommittee could be formed to address oil lamps, torches, and candles. If the scope of products needs to be expanded, this could take place at a later date. Further, plans are to find someone interested in being the chairperson for the packaging group.