



# **U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION**

## **2007 PERFORMANCE BUDGET REQUEST**

*Saving Lives and Keeping Families Safe*

**Submitted to the Congress  
February 2006**



# U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION 2007 PERFORMANCE BUDGET REQUEST

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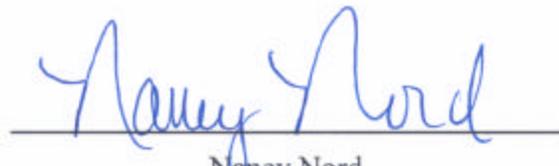
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## COMMISSIONERS' TRANSMITTAL STATEMENT

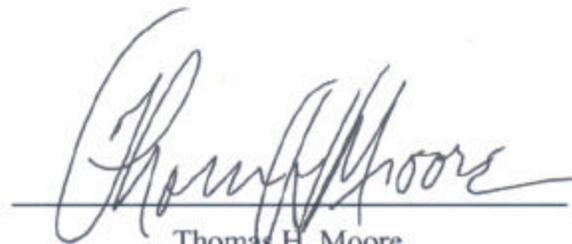
This Performance Budget for Fiscal Year 2007 is submitted by the Commissioners of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.



Hal Stratton  
Chairman



Nancy Nord  
Vice Chairman



Thomas H. Moore  
Commissioner

## **APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE (Proposed)**

### **CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the maximum rate payable under 5 U.S.C. 5376, purchase of nominal awards to recognize non-federal officials' contributions to Commission activities, and not to exceed \$500 for official reception and representation expenses, \$62,370,000. (Additional authorizing legislation to be proposed.)

## U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

### 2007 PERFORMANCE BUDGET OVERVIEW STATEMENT

For the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) 2007 performance budget, we are requesting \$62,370,000. This is the same funding level as our final 2006 appropriation. With level funding for 2007, our funded FTE staffing level will be 420, a decrease of 20 FTEs. Staffing is reduced to meet the increased costs of doing business at projected 2007 prices.

We are continuing our important work on identifying product hazards and their causes, which is the basis for finding solutions to those hazards. We are working with industry and consumers to address products already identified as presenting a risk of injury or death, such as our rulemaking activities in the fire safety area. We are continuing to ensure that both domestic and foreign firms comply with our safety laws and regulations and we are continuing to advance U.S. safety standards with countries, such as China, that export their products to the United States. We will also continue to review our priorities to reflect our reduced FTE level.

#### ***CPSC WORKS FOR AMERICA'S FAMILIES EVERY DAY***

CPSC delivers important safety benefits to the American public every day. Despite increases in the number and complexity of consumer products, our work has contributed significantly to the almost 30 percent decline in the rate of deaths and injuries related to hazardous consumer products since the agency's inception.

CPSC's mission is to protect children and families against unreasonable risks of injury and death from over 15,000 types of consumer products. This health and safety mission is critical for the following reasons:

- Despite significant reductions over the years, there remains an annual average of *25,900 deaths and 33.2 million injuries* each year related to consumer products under CPSC's jurisdiction. These represent almost 9 deaths and 12,000 injuries per 100,000 people each year.
- The deaths, injuries, and property damage associated with consumer products cost the nation over *\$700 billion annually* (see Appendix A – Societal Cost Estimation).

***25,900 deaths,  
33.2 million  
injuries, over  
\$700 billion  
cost***

#### ***CPSC's UNIQUE SAFETY ROLE***

***CPSC identifies  
and acts on  
hazards***

The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) analysis notes that CPSC has a clear Federal safety role in reducing consumer product hazards. CPSC is the only Federal agency that both identifies and acts on a wide range of product hazards. We operate advanced hazard identification systems, including an internationally-recognized hospital emergency room injury

reporting system (National Electronic Injury Surveillance System or NEISS), a toll-free telephone hotline, and a Web site that have all been cited as models among Federal agencies. Once we identify and assess hazards, we use a wide range of tools to address them: the voluntary standards process; consumer information; safety guidelines; cooperative product recalls and corrective actions; and, as a last resort, mandatory rulemaking and litigation. Because CPSC is a Federal agency, our work ensures a uniform level of safety for the nation's families. Similarly, our product safety work and safety guidance provide businesses with a national level playing-field for domestic and imported consumer products.

OMB, in applying its PART analysis to CPSC, found that CPSC scored relatively high (83 percent) among rated Federal programs. While the OMB assessment suggested areas for improvement, OMB found that CPSC overall performs very well.<sup>1</sup>

### ***CPSC ACTIVITIES SAVE BILLIONS***

CPSC is a great value to the American people. By any measure, each year CPSC saves the nation many times the agency's annual budget. The agency's primary performance measures are reductions in deaths, injuries, and other costs to the nation, such as health care and property damage costs. Through our standards work, compliance efforts, industry partnerships, and consumer information programs, we contribute to substantial reductions in deaths and injuries associated with a wide variety of hazards. Some notable CPSC "success stories" include the following:

- A **42 percent reduction** in consumer product-related *residential fire deaths* from 4,560 in 1980 to 2,660 in 1998. The estimated number of residential fire deaths in 2002 was 2,280.<sup>2</sup>
- A **72 percent reduction** in consumer product-related *electrocutions* from 650 in 1975 to 180 in 2001.
- A **36 percent reduction** in consumer product-related *carbon monoxide deaths* from 282 in 1980 to 180 in 1998. The estimated average number of deaths for 1999-2002 was 141.<sup>2</sup>
- An **86 percent reduction** in *poisoning deaths* of children younger than 5 years old from drugs and household chemicals from 216 in 1972 to 34 in 2003.
- An **88 percent reduction** in *baby walker injuries* from an estimated 25,700 children younger than 15 months old treated in U.S. hospital emergency rooms in 1992 to an estimated 3,200 such injuries in 2003.
- A **92 percent reduction** in *crib-related deaths* from an estimated 200 in 1973 to an average of 16 deaths for 1999-2001.

**CPSC  
reduces  
health care  
costs**

In these few examples above, the annual number of deaths and injuries prevented represents *almost \$16 billion in reduced societal costs*. This is 11 times CPSC's total funding since the

<sup>1</sup>A status report on the PART recommendations is included in Appendix B.

<sup>2</sup>Estimates generated for 1999 and later for fire and CO deaths are not strictly comparable to estimates before 1999 because of major revisions to both the external fire and CO reporting data systems used by CPSC.

agency's inception in 1972. We believe many more deaths and injuries have been prevented as a result of the heightened attention to safety by manufacturers and consumers due to CPSC leadership.

### ***2007 REQUEST DETAIL***

The Commission's request for 2007 of \$62,370,000 is the same as the final 2006 appropriation. Projected price increases, however, require us to lower our funded 2006 staffing from 440 to 420 FTEs and to reassess our activities.

### ***2007 Annual Cost Increases***

CPSC is a staff intensive organization with about 90 percent of its funding absorbed by staff compensation and space rental costs. With several unavoidable projected price increases within the proposed 2007 funding level, we must lower our projected funded staff FTE level.

Our largest cost increase is staff salaries. We estimate that the cost of staff will increase by \$2 million. Most of this cost represents the proposed 2.2 percent Federal pay increase (\$1.2 million). The increase also includes other costs such as staff health insurance premium increases (\$200,000), increased Federal Employee Retirement System contributions (\$400,000), annual staff within-grade step increases (\$100,000), and our annual recruitment and retention promotions (\$100,000).

***Increasing cost of staff, our most vital resource***

The General Services Administration (GSA) has also projected a 1 percent space rent increase of \$32,000. This does not represent increased space but increased operating costs on the part of GSA.

***Recurring charges for new system startups***

We also estimate that \$204,000 in total will be necessary to meet price increases and additional new annual operating expenses for specific non-salary, non-space rent costs such as service contracts, and IT equipment and software maintenance. Over the past few years, we were required, for example, to implement several new operating systems (accounting, payroll, personnel, procurement, and e-travel), purchase IT infrastructure improvements, and provide increased building and information technology security enhancements. These system startups and enhancements all have recurring annual maintenance charges or cost increases. This request reflects our increasing reliance on IT and other service contracts the annual costs of which are growing faster than we are able to find offsetting savings.

Finally, we estimate that we need \$400,000 to fully fund the operation of our most important data source, the NEISS system. We need an infusion of funds beyond inflation to meet the actual cost of the program. Since 1998, the number of cases has increased 21 percent (from 300,000 to 364,000) and the cost per case has increased 18 percent (from \$3.22 to \$3.81). NEISS is a unique data source that collects data on product-related injuries from a statistically selected sample of U.S. hospital emergency rooms. It provides the foundation for much of the Commission's work.

***Case numbers and costs per case increasing***

The total for all unfunded increases described above is \$2.6 million. We propose reallocating \$500,000 to offset some of the unfunded price increases, thus reducing the impact to \$2.1 million. This adjustment will prevent the loss of an additional five FTEs.

We have attempted to generate savings to offset cost increases. We have had substantial cost savings in the past with such efforts as field telecommuting. Beginning in 2005, we reduced our funded FTEs from 471 to 440 to accommodate the President's 2006 requested level and the 1 percent rescission mandated by Congress. We achieved this 31 FTE reduction through attrition, retirement incentive programs, and a reorganization. We also closed our three remaining regional offices, saving about \$300,000. These savings have been used to partially offset increases for information technology maintenance costs. We achieved these 2006 staff reductions with minimal impact on our standards and compliance activities by focusing on administrative and field operations. We see limited opportunities for additional savings to further offset 2007 price increases.

### *FTE Changes*

With expected 2006 attrition and careful attention to filling only critical vacancies, we plan to achieve the 420 FTE staff level by the start of 2007. Our goal is to adjust our activities to the reduced resource level in such a manner that the remaining program continues protecting American families.

### *Laboratory Modernization Status*

The 2007 request does not include funding to modernize our aging laboratory facility. GSA has advised us that they are considering our request for the construction phase to be included in a future GSA building prospectus. If GSA is successful in securing funding, CPSC will have to secure funding for the agency share of the modernization cost.

## *STRATEGIC and ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN GOALS*

CPSC is a results-oriented agency. Our second Strategic Plan adopted in September 2003 (currently under revision) guided the development of the 2007 request and focuses on the following two results-oriented hazard reduction strategic goals:

- **Reduce the death rate from fires by 20 percent.**
- **Reduce the death rate from carbon monoxide poisonings by 20 percent.**

We will continue our work in reducing child drownings including expanding our public information efforts. We will no longer be addressing this area at the level of a strategic goal because of resource limitations. This change will be reflected in our upcoming Strategic Plan revision.

*Improve  
risk-based  
decision-  
making*

Our Strategic Plan also contains performance goals in other areas. We developed a critical management initiative to address the use and quality of our data. We rely upon the data we collect to support risk-based decisions focused on reducing the

most critical consumer product hazards. In addition, the Strategic Plan sets a goal to improve the accuracy, consistency, security, and completeness of CPSC's data. We are a data-driven agency, and these goals focus appropriate attention on data management. We also have service quality and customer satisfaction strategic goals for services provided by CPSC, and we address the President's Management Agenda (PMA) by establishing annual performance goals in all five PMA areas.

Our long-term strategic goals cover over 50 percent of agency efforts in 2007 and we have established annual performance goals covering almost 100 percent of the agency's efforts. Overall, we have been successful in meeting our past years' annual performance plan goals. OMB, in its PART analysis, found that our annual performance goals are discrete, quantifiable, and measurable and directly support the agency's mission.

We were successful with our first Strategic Plan. We reached our targets for reducing deaths related to fire, electrocutions, child poisonings and carbon monoxide poisonings. Annual consumer product-related deaths in these hazard areas decreased by almost 500 deaths at the end of the six years covered by our first Strategic Plan. Despite our successes, however, product-related deaths and injuries continue to occur at an unacceptable rate. Our Strategic Plan and annual performance goals will keep us working to reduce deaths and injuries.

The 2007 performance goals, after further analysis by the Commission, may have to be adjusted in our actual 2007 operating plan. We are also conducting the three year midpoint review of our six-year Strategic Plan. Revisions to the Strategic Plan that result in changes to our long-range strategic goals also will be reflected in the 2007 operating plan.

### ***CPSC's PROGRAMS***

CPSC's two budget programs reflect the agency's focus on safety: *Reducing Product Hazards to Children and Families* and *Identifying Product Hazards*.

<b><i>Summary of Program Resource Levels</i></b>						
<b><u>Program</u></b>	<b><u>2006</u></b>		<b><u>2007</u></b>		<b><u>Change</u></b>	
	<b><u>FTEs</u></b>	<b><u>\$000</u></b>	<b><u>FTEs</u></b>	<b><u>\$000</u></b>	<b><u>FTEs</u></b>	<b><u>\$000</u></b>
<i>Reducing Product Hazards to Children and Families</i> .....	355	\$49,905	339	\$49,483	-16	-\$422
<i>Identifying Product Hazards</i> .....	85	12,465	81	12,887	-4	+422
<b><i>Total</i></b> .....	<b><u>440</u></b>	<b><u>\$62,370</u></b>	<b><u>420</u></b>	<b><u>\$62,370</u></b>	<b><u>-20</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

## *Reducing Product Hazards to Children and Families*

Under this program, we seek to reduce deaths and injuries in these four hazard areas:

- *Fire and Electrocution Hazards*
- *Children's Hazards*
- *Poisonings and Other Chemical Hazards*
- *Household and Recreation Hazards*

In each of the four hazard areas, we conduct these basic activities to achieve hazard reductions:

- ***Safety Standards.*** This includes working to develop voluntary or mandatory safety standards for product performance and product labeling, and banning products where appropriate. Whenever possible, hazard reduction activities are carried out cooperatively with affected industries and state and local organizations.
- ***Compliance.*** This includes obtaining compliance with product safety regulations, identifying and remedying unregulated products that present substantial safety hazards, and seeking conformance with voluntary safety standards. Remedies may include voluntary product recalls as well as civil and criminal penalties. We achieve remedial actions by working cooperatively with industry and as a last resort, through litigation. We are also actively reviewing the effectiveness of product recalls and recall techniques.
- ***Consumer Information.*** This includes alerting the public to recalled hazardous products, providing other safety information designed to reduce injuries and deaths, and collecting complaints from the public through the agency's consumer hotline and Web site. The Commission has also recently initiated the [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov) Web site and the *Neighborhood Safety Network* to get safety messages out more quickly. Consumer information is a critical function in the Commission's hazard reduction efforts. For some product hazards, consumer information represents the only viable means available to reduce injuries.
- ***International Activities.*** To complement and enhance our work, CPSC established the Office of International Programs and Intergovernmental Affairs to provide a comprehensive and coordinated effort in consumer product safety standards development and implementation at the international, federal, state and local level. The Office conducts activities and creates strategies aimed at ensuring greater import compliance with recognized U.S. safety standards and exportation of CPSC regulatory policies, technologies and methodologies into other jurisdictions. The Office also works to harmonize the use of standards worldwide.

**International  
outreach  
important**

- ***Reducing Fire and Electrocution Hazards.*** *The Commission's Strategic Plan sets a goal of reducing the rate of death from fires by 20 percent from 1998 to 2013. In 2002, there were about 369,000 residential fires resulting in about 2,280 civilian deaths, 12,870 civilian injuries, and \$5.32 billion in property damage.<sup>3</sup> The total annual cost to the nation of residential fires is almost \$18 billion. Fire is a leading cause of home deaths among children younger than 5 years old and adults 65 and older.*



<sup>3</sup>2002 is the latest year for which data is available. See Fire section for a fuller explanation.

Efforts by the agency and the nation's fire prevention community have resulted in a steady decline in residential fires. This nation's residential fire death rate, however, remains one of the highest among industrialized nations. Our past standard-setting and compliance activities contributed to the general decline in fires and fire deaths and show that the agency is effective in reducing fire hazards. These activities included work on cigarette ignition-resistant mattresses and upholstered furniture, heating and cooking equipment, electrical products, general wearing apparel, children's sleepwear, child-resistant lighters, fireworks, battery-operated children's vehicles, residential sprinklers, and smoke alarms. In 2005, we had 100 recalls involving about 23 million product units presenting a fire hazard.<sup>4</sup> These recalls included the recall of 2.8 million cans of flammable brake and brake parts cleaner with defective valves and 700,000 AFCIs that may not detect an electrical fire-causing arc fault. In addition, CPSC actions prevented the importation of millions of illegal firework devices and unsafe lighters. We also conducted consumer information campaigns to warn the public about fire hazards. We are continuing work towards implementing two major safety rules to address upholstered furniture flammability and open-flame ignition of mattresses.

In 2001, there were about 180 electrocutions associated with consumer products, and the cost to the nation from electrocution and shock-related injuries was about \$1.2 billion. The Commission continues to receive reports of electrocutions from products such as house wiring, lamps and light fixtures, antennas, power tools, and small and large appliances. Deaths from electrocutions have decreased to 6.3 deaths per 10 million people, or about 110 fewer deaths annually since 1988, in large part due to CPSC efforts. We worked with industry to develop safety standards that reduced or nearly eliminated the risk of electrocution for such products as hair dryers, power tools, CB antennas, and electric toys. CPSC has been instrumental in upgrading the National Electrical Code to provide for wider application of the highly effective electric shock protectors known as ground-fault circuit-interrupters or GFCIs. In 2005, we had 20 recalls involving over 5 million product units that posed an electrical shock hazard, such as 1.8 million AC adaptors and about 750,000 carpet cleaners. We conducted consumer information campaigns to warn the public about electrocution and electric shock hazards associated with consumer products.



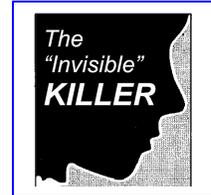
- Reducing Children's Hazards.** Hazards related to children are associated with a wide range of consumer products. Examples of hazards addressed by CPSC include: choking on small children's toys or toy parts; suffocation and entrapment risks to infants in their play and sleep environments; strangulation from window blind cords and clothing drawstrings; falls involving playground equipment, and pre-1997 baby walkers. CPSC also has addressed hazards associated with infant products such as highchairs, strollers, infant swings, and infant car seat/carriers. In 2005 we obtained 103 recalls for toys and other children's products involving nearly 16 million product units, including 5.8 million children's folding chairs and 1 million trampolines that posed hazards to children. We conducted consumer information campaigns to warn the public about hazards to children.



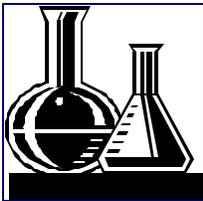
<sup>4</sup>The 2005 recall numbers cited in this document represent the most current information and may differ slightly from data in the 2005 Performance and Accountability Report published in November 2005.

Another children's hazard, drowning, has been a focus of the agency. We will continue our work in reducing drowning to children, including expanding our public information efforts such as partnerships with child safety organizations.

- Reducing Poisonings and Other Chemical Hazards.*** *The Commission's Strategic Plan sets a goal of reducing the rate of death from carbon monoxide poisonings (CO) by 20 percent from the 1999-2000 average by the year 2013. We estimate that our past work in reducing CO poisoning risks saves almost \$600 million annually in societal costs. The latest available data shows that in 1999-2002, an average of 141 people died annually from unintentional CO poisoning-related incidents, excluding incidents involving auto exhaust and fires, at a societal cost of approximately \$705 million. CO is a poisonous gas that has no smell, color or taste, which makes it truly an "invisible" killer. Any fuel-burning appliance is a potential CO source. Numerous people have died because of CO poisoning while using portable generators in the aftermath of hurricanes and other natural disasters. With the increase of severe weather, the use of portable generators is on the increase. Our portable generator initiative will continue in 2007 to address the increased deaths associated with CO poisonings.*



We also play a prominent role in protecting the public from the risk of other chemical hazards. Through promulgation and enforcement of regulations issued under the Poison Prevention Packaging Act (PPPA), CPSC's efforts have played a key role in reducing medicine and household chemical poisoning deaths of children under 5 years old, from an annual average of 200 before 1974 to an average of about 34 deaths in recent years. There are about 1 million calls each year to poison control centers involving children under 5 years old. In 2004, an estimated



74,000 household chemical poisonings to children under the age of 5 were treated in hospital emergency rooms. In the area of lead poisoning, actions included eliminating lead as a chemical stabilizer in vinyl mini-blinds; issuing guidance about lead on public playground equipment; obtaining recalls of crayons containing lead, lead figurines, and toys containing lead paint; and issuing guidance to manufacturers, retailers, distributors, and importers urging them to eliminate the use of lead and hazardous liquids in children's products, such as jewelry and toys. In 2005, we studied the effectiveness of sealants and stains to reduce dislodgeable arsenic from CCA treated wood playground equipment. Also, in 2005, for all poisoning and chemical hazards, we had 28 recalls involving nearly 7.8 million product units, including about 3.4 million pieces of children's jewelry containing high levels of lead and about 1 million bottles of video head cleaner solution mislabeled and sold without the required child-resistant packaging. We conducted workshops for industry so they would better understand and comply with the requirements of the PPPA. We conducted consumer information campaigns to warn the public about poisoning hazards.



- Reducing Household and Recreation Hazards.*** We made important strides in reducing household and recreational hazards. The nation saves \$1 billion annually in societal costs related to lawn mower injuries because of a CPSC safety standard. In 2005, we obtained 147 recalls involving over 15 million product units presenting household or recreation hazards. These recalls involved a wide range of products such as about 1.5 million food processors that pose laceration and finger tip amputation hazards and 500,000 tree stand harnesses that could fail. We

also have been a leader in providing consumers with information on the safe use of bicycles, scooters, and in-line skates. This program includes a new review of All Terrain Vehicles (ATV), including a review of safety standards, current industry practices, and safety proposals to reduce deaths and injuries, including those to young riders. The results of the ATV review will be reflected in our 2007 operating plan.

### *Identifying Product Hazards*

The work in this program provides the critical information needed to assess product hazards and support risk-based decision-making. It is the foundation of all our hazard reduction activities. The program consists of two activities: **Data Collection** and **Data Utility/Emerging Hazards**.

- **Data Collection.** This activity is the agency's early warning system that identifies hazardous products, injury patterns, causes of deaths and injuries, and proposes hazard reduction initiatives. Early identification of product hazards allows CPSC to take prompt action to prevent and reduce injuries and deaths and avoid costs to consumers and businesses. This program is the basis for the agency's decision-making process and subsequent hazard reduction activities, such as voluntary standard development, compliance, consumer information, and rulemaking efforts. The most prominent activity is the operation of CPSC's NEISS hospital emergency room injury reporting system designed to provide statistically valid national estimates of product hazards, providing the foundation for subsequent CPSC safety work. Annually, we review about 360,000 product-related injuries reported by our NEISS hospitals (about 100), and almost 4,400 product-related deaths reported by the nation's medical examiners and coroners.



Staff analyzes the data assembled under the Data Collection activity by conducting follow-up investigations of selected individual incidents, either by telephone or by on-site visits. The follow-up investigations provide an opportunity to examine the interaction between the product involved in the incident, the environment in which the incident occurred, and the injured person. This information is necessary to develop remedial strategies. We conduct about 1,500 on-site and 1,500 telephone investigations each year.

- **Data Utility/Emerging Hazards.** *The Commission's Strategic Plan sets a goal to improve the usefulness of CPSC's data through 2009 by developing and implementing a more systematic method to identify new strategic goal areas, hazard reduction projects, and remedial actions.* In 2005, we completed an accelerated systematic review of death and injury data to identify promising strategic goal areas and hazard reduction projects for future incorporation into our Strategic Plan, as well as to provide insight into potential remedial actions.

We also conduct economic studies to provide specialized economic information for CPSC staff, Commissioners, other agencies, and the public. We generate estimates of products-in-use to determine potential recall effectiveness, determine consumer exposure to product hazards, and support agency hazard analysis work. Staff develops injury cost projections to estimate potential benefits associated with agency actions. Finally, the public may file a petition requesting that the Commission regulate a consumer product under its jurisdiction. In response to petitions, staff may prepare briefing packages for Commission consideration to grant or deny the petitions.

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Our accomplishments illustrate the benefits of CPSC funding. CPSC's injury prevention activities involve all members of the product safety triangle -- consumers, industry, and CPSC -- working together for product safety. CPSC stresses three approaches in carrying out its mission. First, the agency seeks to prevent deaths and injuries from hazardous products before tragedies occur. Second, CPSC seeks to work cooperatively with, and be accessible to, its customers -- American consumers and businesses. Finally, the agency continually evaluates the way it operates to create a more efficient agency.



***The Safety Triangle at Work: Working with Businesses and Consumers.*** Because government, businesses, and consumers all share responsibility for product safety, CPSC:

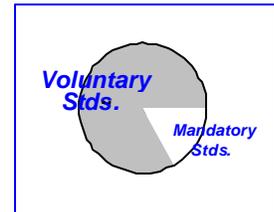
- Established the Office of International Programs and Intergovernmental Affairs to support CPSC's pre-eminent role in consumer product safety on a global level. A major accomplishment was the signing in 2005 of a first-time CPSC memorandum of understanding and action plan with China, a major exporter of consumer products to the U.S.
- Continued the award-winning voluntary *Fast Track Product Recall Program* to speed up corrective actions, including product recalls and, most importantly, quickly remove unsafe consumer products from the marketplace. Over *1,100 firms* have participated in the program, resulting in over *1,700 recalls* involving over *200 million product units*. In 2005, the program recorded a new record with 258 total Fast Track recalls.
- Initiated the creation of [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov), an innovative "one-stop shop" for all federal product recalls, in partnership with five other Federal health and safety regulatory agencies that conduct safety recalls. CPSC also partnered with numerous businesses as well as public organizations in promoting the Web site. The site enables people to sign up for product recall alerts and automatically obtain future product safety information. In 2005, there were 1.1 million visits to the site.
- Created the grassroots *Neighborhood Safety Network* (NSN) to share lifesaving information with families who are not familiar with CPSC's safety messages, particularly vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations, such as the elderly, urban and rural low-income families, and some minority groups. CPSC partnered with other government agencies such as HHS and HUD and non-profit organizations such as National SAFE KIDS Campaign, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and American Academy of Pediatrics to build this important communication vehicle. Through our Web site, interested organizations and individuals may sign up to become a partner in our future safety information campaigns. CPSC is using the contact information to send out posters, publications, and announcements specially tailored to meet the needs of specific groups – such as child safety tips for new parents and fire safety advice for older Americans living on their own.
- Designated an official *Small Business Ombudsman* at CPSC to enhance relationships between the agency and small businesses, and provide guidance to them. So far, the agency has helped over 2,700 small businesses comply more easily with product safety guidelines.

In 2005, over 90 percent of the small businesses that contacted us received a response within three business days. In a recent survey, 92 percent reported that they were satisfied or very satisfied with our services. In 2004 and 2005, the Small Business Administration gave CPSC's Ombudsman program an "A" rating in its annual report to Congress.

- Established a program to invite public comments on CPSC staff and contractor research reports. The primary goals of this program are to make the CPSC staff's activities more transparent and to obtain the benefit of public review and input.
- Held *public safety meetings* that brought together industry, consumer, and government groups to find ways to address safety hazards by sharing information. Recently, we convened Commission meetings on pool drownings and staff held meetings on portable generators. Past topics have included all terrain vehicles (ATVs), recall effectiveness, soft bedding in cribs, public playground safety, swimming pool and spa hazards, bleachers and grandstands, multi-use helmets, movable soccer goals, baseball safety equipment, toy premiums, soccer head injuries, nighttime bicycle safety, carbon monoxide and smoke alarms, phthalates, mattress and bedding fires, and arc-fault circuit interrupters.

***Stressing Voluntary Safety Standards.*** As directed by our governing statutes, we emphasize voluntary safety standards first and enact mandatory standards only when appropriate. For example, CPSC:

- Worked cooperatively with industry to complete 304 voluntary standards, while issuing only 35 mandatory rules from 1990 to 2005 – a nine-to-one ratio of voluntary to mandatory standards.
- Worked cooperatively with industry to revise the *voluntary baby walker safety standard* to address injuries from stair falls. New walkers with safety features are now on the market. There has been a decrease in injuries of almost 90 percent from 1992 to 2003, due in part to the new voluntary standards requirements. Injury costs have already decreased \$1.4 billion.
- Worked cooperatively with industry to revise the voluntary standard for gas water heaters to prevent fires from flammable vapors. These fires, some resulting in deaths and severe burn injuries, typically occur when consumers use flammable liquids (usually gasoline, for cleaning purposes) or when flammable liquids leak or are spilled near the water heater. New, safer water heaters are now on the market.
- Initiated a program to provide information on the CPSC Web site about CPSC staff participation in voluntary standards activities, including advance notice of proposed staff positions on issues to be considered by voluntary standards organizations. This program further opens CPSC staff activities for public review and comment.



***Saving Lives with Action and Information.*** To get unreasonably dangerous consumer products off store shelves and out of homes, CPSC:

- Completed 398 recalls, *all cooperative*, in 2005, involving 67 million product units, such as 2.8 million cans of brake and brake parts cleaner, 5.8 million children's folding chairs, and 3.4 million pieces of children's jewelry.

- Enhanced recall effectiveness by establishing the CPSC-created *Neighborhood Safety Network*, a communications vehicle using email and the Internet, initiating the creation of [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov), and updating our [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) Web site.
- Continued to enforce the laws and regulations designed to protect citizens from product hazards. In 2005, we completed 6 civil penalty cases that resulted in almost \$8.8 million in fines for failure to report a hazardous defect. In addition, we assisted in securing three criminal convictions for violations of the Federal Hazardous Substances Act and other statutes.
- Informed the public in 2005 of hazardous products through 383 press releases and recall alerts, 1.2 million distributed publications, numerous appearances on network TV shows, and CPSC's consumer hotline, Web site, and National Injury Information Clearinghouse. We placed, on national and local TV news shows, 10 agency and industry-funded video news releases to announce recalls or give safety information. These video news releases reached an audience of about 86 million viewers.
- Prevented (in partnership with U.S. Customs and Border Protection) over 1.3 million *non-complying firework devices*, about 2.3 million *non-complying lighters*, and over 240,000 units of *hazardous toys and other children's products* that violated safety standards from entering the country in 2005
- Inaugurated the *Retailer Reporting Model* to give retailers a new way of meeting their obligation to report potential product hazards or violations of Commission safety standards.
- Released *Guidelines for Entrapment Hazards: Making Pools and Spas Safer* to provide safety information that will help identify and eliminate dangerous entrapment hazards in swimming pools, wading pools, spas, and hot tubs.

***Improving Early Warning Systems.*** Because CPSC is data-driven, we always seek to improve the timeliness and quality of data collection efforts. Specifically, CPSC:

- *Expanded and accelerated collection of medical examiner and coroner reports* to provide faster identification of consumer product-related deaths.
- *Improved the availability of hazard data to staff, industry, and consumers* by making data from the agency's NEISS database available on CPSC's Web site.
- *Expanded timely reporting of hazards* by accepting hazard complaints through our telephone hotline and Web site.

***CPSC and Citizens.*** We work hard to bring CPSC services to citizens through many different means. Specifically, CPSC:

- Provided a "user friendly" *CPSC Internet Web site* ([www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)), increasing visits to the site to 13.7 million in 2005 from 200,000 in 1997 (the first full year of operation). The CPSC's Web site provides up-to-the minute recall and other safety information, and allows the public to send CPSC complaints about hazardous products. Industry also can use this site to file hazardous product reports required under Section 15 of the Consumer Product Safety Act and obtain current information about CPSC actions. CPSC safety brochures are available on our Web site for citizens and organizations to download and distribute. A

section for children, *Especially for Kids*, provides children with important safety information on activities such as bicycling and skateboarding. Recently, we conducted a major review of our Web site and introduced many enhancements. In a recent survey, 94 percent of Web site users reported they were satisfied or very satisfied with the Web site.

- Combined state-of-the-art technology and existing resources to transform our hotline into an *innovative, user-friendly hotline information system*. The hotline provides a critical gateway to CPSC for consumers seeking important safety information and filing reports about unsafe products. In 2005, there were 129,000 hotline calls from the public.
- *Brought staff closer to citizens* by reassigning staff from larger, centralized regional offices to locations dispersed throughout the nation, and providing greater local presence and access.

***Streamlining and Strengthening Agency Operations.*** To assure the most value for the American public from every agency dollar, CPSC:

- *Produced 2005 audited financial statements earning a “Clean Opinion”* (reported in our 2005 Performance and Accountability Report, November 2005). These statements met the *accelerated* Federal schedule of 45 days after the close of the fiscal year. The audit found that CPSC’s statements and financial system conformed to accepted accounting principles, laws, and regulations and that CPSC has effective internal controls.
- *Reorganized in 2005* to streamline our workforce, reduce support positions, and reduce managerial and supervisory levels.
- *Consolidated two separate laboratory facilities at one location* to make more efficient use of space and to increase staff productivity. In addition, we recently co-located our sample storage facility to our laboratory site to reduce travel, shipping, and staff time costs. We are working with GSA on plans to modernize our testing laboratory site in order to introduce more efficiency and capability into the operation of this vital facility.
- *Modernized information technology infrastructure* from mainframe technology to a client – server internal network environment that has lowered costs, improved access to hazard data, and increase the speed of agency responses.
- *Implemented a field telecommuting program* that eliminated all field space rent and increased staff efficiency.
- *Created a strategic goal* to focus the agency on continual improvement of critical databases that support risk-based decision-making by the Commission.



**TABLE 1**  
**2005 TO 2007 RESOURCES BY PROGRAM AND ACTIVITY**  
**(dollars in thousands)**

	<u>2005 Actual</u>		<u>2006 Plan</u>		<u>2007 Request<sup>5</sup></u>		<u>2007 Change from 2006</u>	
	<u>FTEs</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTEs</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTEs</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTEs</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>REDUCING PRODUCT HAZARDS TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:</b>								
<b>Reducing Fire and Electrocutation Hazards .....</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>\$24,227</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>\$23,193</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>\$22,795</b>	<b>-9</b>	<b>\$-398</b>
Fire Deaths*.....	153	21,907	148	20,763	139	20,252	-9	-511
Electrocutation Hazards.....	17	2,320	18	2,430	18	2,543	--	+113
<b>Reducing Children's Hazards.....</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>10,975</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>10,638</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>11,096</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>+458</b>
<b>Reducing Poisonings and Other Chemical Hazards .....</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>7,419</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>7,465</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>7,938</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>+473</b>
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning* .....	10	1,473	14	2,165	14	2,302	--	+137
Child Poisonings and Other Chemical Hazards .....	40	5,946	38	5,300	38	5,636	--	+336
<b>Reducing Household and Recreation Hazards .....</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>6,902</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>8,609</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>7,654</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>-955</b>
<b>    Subtotal.....</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>\$49,523</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>\$49,905</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>\$49,483</b>	<b>-16</b>	<b>\$-422</b>
<b>IDENTIFYING PRODUCT HAZARDS:</b>								
Data Collection**.....	85	10,600	74	11,009	71	11,432	-3	+423
Emerging Hazards/Data Utility*.....	13	1,961	11	1,456	10	1,455	-1	-1
<b>    Subtotal.....</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>\$12,561</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>\$12,465</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>\$12,887</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>\$+422</b>
<b>TOTAL COMMISSION.....</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>\$62,084</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>\$62,370</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>\$62,370</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>\$0</b>

\* These are strategic goals.

\*\* Data collection activities support all hazard reduction efforts.

<sup>5</sup> The 2007 resource allocations by program prepared on the basis of planned projects and then adjusted on a pro-rata basis for the 20 FTE reduction. Allocations may be revised during development of 2007 Operating Plan.

**TABLE 2**  
**2006 TO 2007 BUDGET CHANGES**  
(Dollars in thousands)

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTEs</u>
<b>2006 APPROPRIATION</b> .....	<b>\$63,000</b>	<b>446</b>
<b>Rescission</b> .....	<b>-630</b>	<b>-6</b>
<b>REVISED 2006 APPROPRIATION</b> .....	<b><u>62,370</u></b>	<b><u>440</u></b>
<b>Cost Increases to Maintain Current Services in 2007:</b>		
Staff pay and benefit increases.....	\$2,005	
GSA space rent increase for staff office space.....	32	
Non-salary/non-space rent price increases .....	204	
NEISS Hospital reporting cost increase.....	400	
Cost increase offset.....	-500	
<b>Subtotal, Current Services Requirement</b> .....	<b><u>\$2,141</u></b>	
<b>2007 CURRENT SERVICES LEVEL</b> .....	<b>\$64,511</b>	<b>440</b>
<b>2007 PRESIDENTS REQUEST</b> .....	<b><u>62,370</u></b>	<b><u>420</u></b>
<b>CHANGE FROM REVISED 2006 TO PROPOSED 2007</b> .....	<b><u>-\$2,141</u></b>	<b><u>-20</u></b>

## **BUDGET PROGRAM: Reducing Product Hazards to Children and Families**

Our largest budget program, representing about 80 percent of our annual request, focuses on *Reducing Product Hazards to Children and Families*. This program addresses product hazards identified in our other program, *Identifying Product Hazards*.

CPSC's hazard reduction work has contributed substantially to the 30 percent decline in the rate of deaths and injuries related to consumer products since the agency's inception in 1973. Past CPSC work has saved and continues to save the nation billions of dollars each year. Product-related deaths and injuries, however, continue to occur. There are on average, 25,900 deaths and over 33.2 million injuries each year related to consumer products under CPSC's jurisdiction. The deaths, injuries, and property damage associated with consumer products cost the nation over \$700 billion annually. (See Appendix A - Societal Cost Estimation.)

In the Reducing Hazards budget program, we set goals for reducing the risks of injuries and deaths from:

- Fire and electrocution hazards,
- Children's hazards,
- Chemical hazards, and
- Household and recreation hazards.

Whenever possible, the Commission seeks a *voluntary solution* to product hazards. This voluntary approach is demonstrated by our high ratio of voluntary to mandatory safety standards (almost nine-to-one since 1990) and our success at getting voluntary recalls (100 percent in 2005).

**2007 RESOURCE CHANGES** Total dollars decrease by \$422,000 to reflect the program's share of the agency request. FTEs change within the activities of the program to reflect agency-wide FTE reductions, as well as normal adjustments of staff time required to work on projects scheduled in 2007.

HAZARDS	2005 Actual		2006 Plan		2007 Request	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
<b>Fire and Electrocution</b>	170	\$24,227	166	\$23,193	157	\$22,795
<b>Children</b>	78	10,975	78	10,638	76	11,096
<b>Chemical</b>	50	7,419	52	7,465	52	7,938
<b>Household and Recreation</b>	51	6,902	59	8,609	54	7,654
<b>TOTAL</b>	349	\$49,523	355	\$49,905	339	\$49,483

Note: Dollar amounts listed in thousands (throughout document).

## **HOW WE REDUCE HAZARDS**

The Commission uses a number of strategies to reduce the risks associated with hazardous consumer products. These strategies include (1) participating in the voluntary standards process or developing mandatory safety standards; (2) conducting compliance activities such as recalls, corrective actions, and enforcement of existing regulations; and (3) alerting the public to safety hazards and informing them about safe practices. We also recently developed an international program to focus on reducing hazards from imported products. The agency bases its actions to reduce the risks hazardous consumer products on information developed from its extensive data collection systems that assess the causes and scope of product-related injuries.

### ***Safety Standards***

Much of our work in saving lives and making homes safer is through cooperation with industry. From 1990 through 2005, we worked with industry and others to develop 304 voluntary safety standards while issuing only 35 mandatory rules. This is almost a nine-to-one ratio of voluntary to mandatory standards.

Staff participates in the development of voluntary standards at a number of steps in the process. Staff first submits recommendations for new standards, or modifications of existing standards, to voluntary standards organizations. On acceptance of our recommendations, the organizations complete technical work to support the requirements, publish a proposal for public comment, receive and evaluate comments and publish a standard. Staff participates in the process by providing expert advice, technical assistance, and information based on data analyses of how deaths, injuries and/or incidents occurred. Our voluntary standards policy does not permit us to vote on proposed changes or new standards; however, our comments are considered throughout the process.

This process may take months or several years. Staff makes recommendations to strengthen existing and develop new voluntary safety standards. While the actual development of proposed safety provisions may be influenced by CPSC staff, the staff has no influence on the publication dates of standards.

Safety standards may also be developed through regulation. We usually work cooperatively with industry to develop an effective voluntary standard. If a voluntary standard exists, by law, we may issue a mandatory standard only when we

find that the voluntary standard will not eliminate or adequately reduce the risk of injury or death or it is unlikely that there will be substantial compliance with the voluntary standard.

Most of our statutes require us to go through a three-step rulemaking process. During this process, we seek input from all interested parties, including consumers, industry and other government agencies. We generally develop performance standards, rather than design standards, to give manufacturers the most flexibility in meeting our requirements. Examples of mandatory standards are requirements for child-resistant lighters and for bunk beds. We may initiate rulemaking based on petitions from outside parties or based on our own internal staff work.

## **Compliance**

We also reduce hazards through compliance activities. In 2005, CPSC completed 398 cooperative recalls involving nearly 67 million consumer product units that either violated mandatory standards or presented a substantial risk of injury to the public. Although we have neither the authority nor the resources to approve products for safety before they are marketed, we can work with companies to remove products from the marketplace if we learn that they violate mandatory safety standards or are defective, thereby posing a substantial risk of injury or death.

Headquarters and field staff identify defective products through their own investigations. In addition, firms are required by law to report potential product hazards or violations of standards to the Commission. In 2005, we inaugurated the *Retailer Reporting Model* to give retailers a new way of meeting their obligation to report potential product hazards or violations of Commission safety standards.

During 2005, we obtained the largest dollar amount of total civil penalties in a single year (\$8.8 million) against companies for failure to report possible product hazards in a timely manner.

If an evaluation of a potential hazard supports seeking a product recall, we work with the firm to cooperatively recall the defective or violative product. In nearly all cases, firms work cooperatively with us. If a firm refuses to recall a product voluntarily, we may litigate to require a recall.

To assist industry in recalling products and complying with our regulations easily and quickly, we rely on Fast-Track product recalls and the work of our Small Business Ombudsman. We developed the Fast-Track program to streamline the process of recalls for firms that were willing and prepared to recall their products quickly. Because every defective product presents a risk of injury or death, removing hazardous products from the marketplace faster can prevent more injuries and save more lives. Recalls under the Fast-Track program are conducted twice as fast as other recalls and, 90 percent of the time, are implemented within 20 days of a firm's report to CPSC.

We utilize a Small Business Ombudsman to help small firms comply more easily with product safety regulations and guidelines by providing them with a single point of contact for assistance and information. The Ombudsman coordinates a clear and understandable response from our technical staff so that firms receive the information they need within three business days.

### **Consumer Information**

CPSC warns the public about product-related hazards through print and electronic media, our hotline and Web sites ([www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) and [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov)) and other outreach activities such as the *Neighborhood Safety Network*. We develop and provide safety information for the public through safety and recall alerts, print and video news releases, publications, national and local television appearances, and hotline messages. When knowledge of a hazard requires immediate warnings to the public, such as the recall of a playpen that caused the death of a baby, we rely heavily on the media (newspapers, radio, TV, video news releases) to disseminate our message. For warnings that need to be repeated -- and most do -- we often rely on outreach by partnering with other organizations and developing programs, such as our annual safety roundup. Through the *Neighborhood Safety Network*, we strengthen our partnerships to utilize email and the Internet to more rapidly disseminate our important safety information.

In response to the devastating hurricanes in our Gulf Region, CPSC partnered with the Florida, Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana Departments of Health, FEMA, local emergency management agencies and the Red Cross. We warned residents of the hazards associated with generator use and also the dangers they may encounter when returning to their property, including electrical, gas and standing water hazards.

We improved our Web site, consumer hotline, Clearinghouse, and publications distribution capability to better serve the public. CPSC's Web site has grown rapidly from about 200,000 visits in 1997 to 13.7 million visits in 2005. We post and spotlight recall notices on the Web site at the same time as we issue a news release announcing the recall. Consumers and firms can file reports of unsafe products on-line and firms are ensured of confidentiality by encrypted transfer of data. Product safety information is also available in Spanish and other languages and children can access a special section of the site, *Especially for Kids*, which has safety information.

In 2003, we initiated the creation of [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov), an innovative "one-stop shop" for all federal product recalls, in partnership with five other federal health and safety regulatory agencies. This Web site is an easy-to-use portal to all federal agencies that have the authority to conduct safety recalls. In 2005, there were 1.1 million visitors to the site.

The hotline receives consumer complaints and provides information on product hazards and recalls to the public. The National Injury Information Clearinghouse provides injury data to our staff and the public and provides manufacturers with consumer complaints, reported incidents, and investigations involving their products.

### ***International Program and Intergovernmental Affairs***

CPSC established the *Office of International Programs and Intergovernmental Affairs* to provide a comprehensive and coordinated effort in consumer product safety standards development and implementation at the international, federal, state and local levels. The Office conducts activities and creates strategies aimed at ensuring greater import compliance with recognized American safety standards and exportation of CPSC regulatory policies, technologies and methodologies into other jurisdictions. The Office also works to harmonize the use of standards worldwide.

### **TWO TYPES OF ANNUAL PERFORMANCE GOALS**

Our annual plans set performance goals and targets for our key hazard reduction and identification activities, CPSC services to industry and consumers, data quality, and the President's Management Agenda. These activities require two different types of performance targets.

For activities that address unforeseen safety issues, such as recalls, corrective actions, and news releases, annual targets are more appropriately characterized as estimates. We set

numerical estimates for these activities based on a review of historical data. However, the actual number of recalls, corrective actions, and news releases responding to unpredictable events in a given year may vary from the estimate, depending on the mix of safety-related problems arising during that year.

For other activities, annual targets are goals set for completing a certain number of activities, e.g., sending a targeted number of recommendations designed to address fire-related deaths to voluntary standards organizations.

## **SETTING TARGETS**

For 2007, we reduced resource levels on a prorated basis and annual performance targets by 5 percent to reflect resource reductions. The 2007 performance targets, after further analysis by the Commission, may have to be adjusted in our 2007 operating plan.

## **FIRE AND ELECTROCUTION HAZARDS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Reducing fire and electrocution hazards is our largest hazard reduction activity. Fires are a leading cause of consumer product-related deaths. Electrocution represents a significant but somewhat smaller program, and resources are allocated accordingly.

### **2007 RESOURCE CHANGES**

Total dollars decrease by \$398,000 to reflect the program's share of the agency request. FTEs change within the activities of the program to reflect agency-wide FTE reductions, as well as normal adjustments of staff time required to work on projects scheduled in 2007.

<b>HAZARDS</b>	<b>2005 Actual</b>		<b>2006 Plan</b>		<b>2007 Request</b>	
	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>A. Fire</b>	153	\$21,907	148	\$20,763	139	\$20,252
<b>B. Electrocution</b>	17	2,320	18	2,430	18	2,543
<b>TOTAL</b>	170	\$24,227	166	\$23,193	157	\$22,795

### **A. FIRE HAZARDS**



#### **THE HAZARD**

**STRATEGIC GOAL: Reduce the rate of death from fire-related causes by 20 percent from 1998 to 2013.**

This nation's fire death rate remains high. In 2002<sup>6</sup>, an estimated 2,280 people died, and 12,870 were injured because of fires in residences. These fires resulted in property losses of about \$5.32 billion. The total cost to the nation from residential fires was almost \$18 billion. Children and seniors are particularly vulnerable. In 2002, over 480 children under the age of 15 died of fire-related causes, and over 300 of these deaths were to children under the age of 5 years. Children under age 5 have a fire death rate nearly twice the national average. Older adults also have significantly higher fire death rates in comparison to the rest

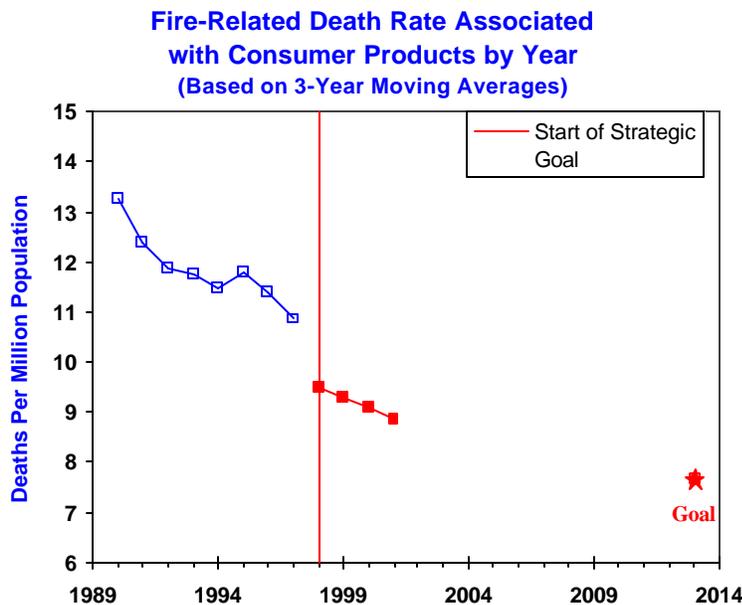
<sup>6</sup>2002 is the latest year for which complete death data is available; these estimates are based on fires in residential structures that were attended by the fire service.

of the population. In 2002, residential fires resulted in over 600 deaths to adults 65 years and older.

Products most often ignited in fatal fires are upholstered furniture, mattresses, and bedding. In recent years, these product categories were associated with about one-third of fire deaths. Cooking equipment is often involved as a source of ignition in fire deaths, accounting for about 10 percent of fire deaths in recent years.

**OUR PROGRESS**

Under previous Strategic Plans (1997 and 2000), we set a target to reduce the rate of fire deaths due to consumer products by 10 percent from 1995 to 2005. From 1995 to 2002, the fire death rate declined by nearly 25 percent. To further reduce the death rate, we retained this as a strategic goal in our current Strategic Plan, but with a new target of 20 percent reduction from 1998 to 2013.



Deaths due to fire have declined substantially since 1990. In 2002, there were about 1,100 fewer home fire-related deaths compared to 1990. The estimates since 1998 are not strictly comparable, however, to those for previous years because of changes in the system for coding fire data.<sup>7</sup>

Past standard-setting and compliance activities contributed to the general decline in fires and fire deaths and show that the agency is effective in reducing fire hazards. These activities include work on cigarette ignition-resistant mattresses and upholstered furniture, heating and cooking equipment, electrical products, general wearing apparel, children’s sleepwear, child-resistant lighters, fireworks, battery-operated children’s vehicles, smoke alarms, and residential fire sprinklers.

<sup>7</sup>A new revision of the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), the nationwide system for coding information about fires, went into effect in 1999.

## 2007 ANNUAL FIRE-RELATED GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Safety Standards</b>							
1. Prepare candidates for rulemaking	<b>Goal</b>	3	3	3	4	5	6
	<b>Actual</b>	3	2	3	1		
2. Present recommendations to voluntary standards or code organizations	<b>Goal</b>	3	3	3	0	1	4
	<b>Actual</b>	4	3	2	0		
3. Complete data analysis and technical review activities	<b>Goal</b>	14	12	10	14	12	6
	<b>Actual</b>	12	7	5	10		
4. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards and code revisions	<b>Goal</b>	**	17	14	13	11	14
	<b>Actual</b>	15	17	14	17		
<b>Compliance</b>							
5. Pursue for recall or other corrective action	<b>Goal</b>	505	350	270	315	326*	309*
	<b>Actual</b>	371	275	387	345		
6. Monitor existing voluntary standards	<b>Goal</b>	1	1	0	0	1*	1*
	<b>Actual</b>	1	2	0	0		
7. Conduct port-of-entry surveillance	<b>Goal</b>	2	2	2	1	1*	1*
	<b>Actual</b>	3	3	2	2		
<b>Consumer Information</b>							
8. Conduct public information efforts/partnerships	<b>Goal</b>	7	7	5	6	7	5
	<b>Actual</b>	7	7	5	5		
9. Issue press releases and recall alerts	<b>Goal</b>	45	45	60 <sup>#</sup>	60 <sup>#</sup>	113 <sup>#</sup>	107 <sup>#</sup>
	<b>Actual</b>	88	72	100	131		
10. Provide television interviews and appearances	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	13	14
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	18	14		
11. E-Publications viewed (in thousands)	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	340	358
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	411	391		

\*\*No goal established. --Data not available.

\*Estimate based on prior years' experience. The actual number of recalls, corrective actions, monitoring, and surveillance activities will depend on the mix of safety-related problems arising during the year.

<sup>#</sup>This goal now includes recall alerts.

### Safety Standards

#### 1. Prepare for Commission consideration 6 candidates for rulemaking or other alternatives.

##### Upholstered Furniture

360 deaths  
740 injuries  
\$133 million in property damage  
(1999-2002 annual average)  
(includes 60 deaths and 260 injuries associated with small open flame ignition and 300 deaths and 480 injuries associated with cigarette ignition)

Ignitions of upholstered furniture account for more fire deaths than any consumer product under CPSC's jurisdiction. Staff is developing a draft flammability standard to address the risk of fire associated with ignitions of upholstered furniture by smoldering cigarettes and by small open-flame sources like lighters, matches, and candles.

In 2003, CPSC published an ANPR covering both cigarette-ignited and small open flame-ignited fires. In 2004 and 2005, staff developed a revised draft standard addressing both ignition mechanisms. In 2006, the Commission considered a

proposed rule. In 2006, depending on Commission action on a possible NPR, staff may analyze public comments on an NPR and complete technical work to support a draft final rule.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will follow Commission guidance concerning further rulemaking. Staff will also continue to work with the California Bureau of Home Furnishings; industry and other stakeholders; and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on related issues.

#### *Bedclothes - Flammability*

350 deaths  
1,750 injuries  
\$295.0 million in property loss  
(1999-2000 annual average)

Mattresses are typically covered by bedclothes which significantly affect the character of any fire. Research conducted at National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has shown that mattresses and bedding operate together as a system; certain bedclothes can produce fires presenting flashover risks, even with mattresses that would meet the proposed open-flame mattress standard. Improving the flammability of bedclothes could reduce their contribution to mattress fires and limit the impact of the fire hazard, minimizing the threat of flashover.

In 2005, CPSC voted to publish an ANPR to develop a mandatory standard to address open-flame ignition of bedclothes and began evaluating the ANPR comments. In 2006, staff will participate in a test method study being conducted by the California Bureau of Home Furnishings.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will monitor the progress of California's efforts to develop a test method for filled bedding items and conduct other testing and analysis activities, as appropriate.

#### *Mattresses - Cigarette Ignition*

180 deaths  
520 injuries  
\$81.6 million in property loss  
(1999-2000 annual average)

In 2005, CPSC published an ANPR, initiating a possible amendment or revocation of the existing cigarette ignition standard. In 2006, staff will analyze comments on the ANPR, conduct necessary laboratory tests, and develop materials to support regulatory options.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will prepare a draft briefing package with recommendations for Commission consideration. In addition, staff will follow CPSC direction, possibly responding to public comments on proposed amendments or revocation of the mattress cigarette ignition standard.

#### *Cigarette Lighters, Mechanical Malfunction*

2 deaths  
20 injuries  
\$0.5 million in property loss

In 2005, CPSC issued an ANPR to develop a new mandatory safety standard for cigarette lighters to prevent mechanical malfunctions. In 2006, staff will conduct a study of conformance with the ASTM voluntary cigarette lighter

(1994-1999 annual average, based on NFIRS)

standard (F-400) and provide that information to the Commission for consideration.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will complete and send an options package to the Commission.

### *Clothing Textile Standard Amendments*

126 deaths (1999-2002 annual average, NCHS)  
3,800 injuries (2000-2004 annual average, NEISS)

The Federal Standard for the Flammability of Clothing Textiles was enacted to reduce clothing-related thermal burn injuries and fatalities because of highly flammable textiles in clothing. Several aspects of the existing standard require test procedure clarification or updating because of changes in test equipment, environmental law, and consumer textile cleaning practices. An ANPR was published in late 2002. In 2003, staff reviewed the ANPR comments and developed a plan to prepare a proposed standard. In 2004 and 2005, staff prepared recommendations for amendments to the standard. In 2006, staff will prepare a briefing package for Commission consideration, address NPR comments if an NPR is issued, draft final amendments to the general wearing apparel standard as appropriate, and prepare supporting documentation for Commission consideration.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will continue with the rulemaking process, implementing an amended standard, or other options as directed by the Commission.

### *Carpet and Rug Standards Amendments*

90 deaths  
330 injuries  
6,500 fires  
\$122.0 million in property loss  
(1999-2000 annual average)

The Standards for the Flammability of Carpets and Rugs were adopted to prevent fires spread by carpets and rugs that are ignited by a small-ignition source (such as a match or burning ember). The test method requires the use of a methenamine tablet produced by Ely Lilly or an equivalent tablet as the ignition source for the carpet tests. In 2002, Ely Lilly ceased production of its tablet. The standards need to be amended to specify the characteristics that produce tablets equivalent to the Lilly product without reference to a specific brand-name product. In 2005, staff prepared a draft briefing package with recommended product specification amendments for Commission consideration in 2006. In 2006, if CPSC publishes an NPR with a technical amendment, staff will address NPR comments and prepare the draft final rule (technical amendment) for Commission consideration.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will implement a final rule or other options as directed by the Commission.

## 2. Prepare and present recommendations to voluntary standards or code organizations to strengthen or develop 4 voluntary standards or codes, as appropriate.

### *Electric Blankets*

<10 deaths  
30 injuries  
(1994-1998 annual average)

Following revisions to the UL standard for electric blankets in 1999, new technologies emerged. Recent recalls of blankets employing some of these new designs found connector and assembly problems. In 2005, staff began an analysis of different electric blanket technologies to assess whether the industry voluntary safety standard adequately addresses the risk of fire and shock that may be associated with these emerging designs. In 2006, staff will complete an assessment of blankets in comparison to problems highlighted in recalls and conduct a review of the voluntary standard to determine the need for revisions to the standard.

**Goal:** Complete a report of the 2006 work and develop recommendations for new provisions in the voluntary standard, as appropriate.

### *Electrical Lighting Products*

10 deaths  
100 injuries  
\$83.2 million in property loss  
(2002)

CPSC staff is investigating the causes of fire incidents involving lamps, light fixtures and light bulbs.

**Goal:** Develop recommendations for improvements to the applicable voluntary standards to address incidents involving the design, installation, use, and/or maintenance of lighting products.

### *Range/Oven Extinguishing Systems*

190 deaths  
2,830 injuries  
(estimated annual average  
1999-2000)

Range/oven fires account for extensive residential fire losses. After-market range/oven extinguishing systems are available to consumers to prevent these fires and vary in complexity and cost, from simple overhead range-mounted cans to systems that have the ability to shut off the power or gas supply. In 2006, staff will develop market information, identify and review applicable safety standards and conduct limited laboratory tests to evaluate the effectiveness of these products. A report of this work will be completed.

**Goal:** Staff will pursue standards development activities, as appropriate.

### *Smoke Alarms*

2,270 deaths  
12,870 injuries  
\$5.32 billion in property loss  
(2002 total residential fires)

As of 1997, an estimated 94% of U.S. homes had at least one smoke alarm. The increased use of smoke alarms has contributed to a dramatic decrease in fire deaths in the U.S. during the last 20 years; however, there continue to be a large number of residential fire deaths and injuries. Occupants have less time to safely escape in residential fires than they had 30 years ago due to changes in construction

materials and home furnishings. In 2005, staff investigated solutions to reduce the response detection time of a smoke alarm in the event of a fire. In 2006, staff will construct and test a prototype smoke alarm to improve alarm detection.

**Goal:** Staff will develop and recommend improvements to the voluntary standard, as appropriate.

### 3. Complete 6 data analysis, collection, and technical review activities.

#### *Electrical Safety Checklist*

**Goal:** Update the *Home Electrical Safety Audit Room by Room Checklist* to reflect more recent National Electrical Code changes and make the document more user-friendly.

#### *Fire Detection System for Unconditioned Spaces*

10 deaths  
80 injuries  
\$318.4 million in property loss  
(2002)

Emerging technologies raise the possibility that a smoke alarm or other fire detection device in an attic or garage could alarm remotely, providing additional escape time. Currently, there are no known building code requirements for smoke alarms or other fire detection devices in unconditioned spaces, such as attics and garages.

**Goal:** Staff will review building codes for provisions for fire detection equipment in unconditioned spaces; review attic and garage fire in-depth investigations (IDI) to determine if fire detection equipment could have prevented deaths and injuries and lessened property damage; and compare the operating environment parameters of fire detection equipment to temperatures expected to be encountered in attics and garages.

#### *Fireplace, Chimney and Connector Fires*

40 deaths  
110 injuries  
\$140.6 million in property damage  
(1999-2002 annual average)

There may be new technologies, or new uses for old technologies, that can be applied to either prevent the formation or deposit of creosote, an oily liquid from the distillation of wood tar, or to extinguish the chimney fire after it starts.

**Goal:** Staff will review product literature for fireplace logs that claim to remove creosote; examine samples of new technologies and review old technology for possible new uses; test for safety and health effects; and write a summary report with recommendations for further work.

#### *Flammable Liquids*

39 deaths (2001-2004 annual average)  
9,930 injuries (2004)

Clothing fire incidents collected through CPSC's burn center incident reports found that nearly half of the incidents involved children and flammable liquids such as gasoline and kerosene.

**Goal:** Staff will prepare an analysis of incidents, based on the data collection, and identify possible approaches to preventing these incidents.

### *Smoke Alarms*

2,270 deaths  
12,870 injuries  
\$5.32 billion in property loss  
(2002 total residential fires)

Young children and seniors may have difficulty hearing certain smoke alarm signals. Little behavioral research exists on smoke alarm signaling and related smoke alarm design issues.

**Goal:** Staff will conduct a review of research in behavioral analysis areas such as sensation, perception, and sleep. Data will be compiled and analyzed. A report will define and highlight the most critical data-deficient areas for human factors smoke alarm design.

### *Temperature Controls*

A temperature operating or limit control component typically reacts to heating or cooling to turn a heating appliance on or off. Some CPSC staff tests have found safety and operating controls that either failed to open or did not open at the specified temperature.

**Goal:** Staff will test temperature control samples to measure performance characteristics, such as deviations in calibration, and to address considerations such as thermal lag in first-time operation. Possible temperature effects, which may affect electrical properties, will be investigated.

## **4. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards and code revisions.**

### *Voluntary Standards*

Staff will monitor or participate in developing or modifying voluntary standards for products such as escape masks, fire sprinklers, arc fault circuit interrupters, portable fans, smoke alarms, and surge suppressors.

## **Compliance**

### **5. *Recalls***

Staff will initiate recalls or other corrective actions for products that violate mandatory safety standards or unregulated products that present a substantial risk of fire-related death and injury. In 2005, we identified and corrected 345 violations relating to products that failed mandatory fire safety standards or presented a substantial risk of fire-related deaths.

### **6. *Voluntary Standards Compliance***

Staff will monitor compliance with 1 existing voluntary standard likely to reduce fire-related deaths.

## 7. *Import Surveillance*

Staff will conduct port-of-entry surveillance for 1 product for which fire safety standards are in effect. In 2005, CPSC field staff and U.S. Customs and Border Protection prevented about 2.3 million non-complying lighters and 1.3 million units of violative fireworks from entering the country. The Office of International Programs and Intergovernmental Affairs will continue to conduct activities and create strategies aimed at ensuring greater import compliance with recognized safety standards.

## **Consumer Information**

### 8. **Conduct 5 public information efforts, including at least 1 partnership with industry and/or a fire safety group.**

#### *Fireworks*

CPSC will conduct a national safety campaign for the Fourth of July to increase public awareness of the dangers associated with fireworks. This national campaign will alert consumers to the common hazards associated with legal and illegal fireworks through a news conference and video news release. Possible partnerships may include the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security. We may reissue a fireworks safety poster for use by the *Neighborhood Safety Network (NSN)*.

#### *General Fire Hazards*

In support of CPSC's development of a possible new open-flame flammability standard for mattresses and foundation sets, we will develop and conduct a major information and education campaign throughout the year that includes news releases, VNRs, and posters for *NSN* partners and other grassroots organizations.

#### *Halloween Hazards*

CPSC will remind consumers of the flammability hazards associated with costumes and other Halloween hazards and highlight warnings about the risk of fire associated with homemade children's costumes, jack-o-lanterns, and other Halloween decorations. We will issue a safety alert and provide TV and radio interviews.

#### *Holiday Hazards*

During the winter holiday season, CPSC will reissue an annual news release to warn consumers about the risk of fire from defective decorative holiday light strings and natural trees, and provide tips on the safe use of candles and fireplaces.

*Smoke Alarms*

In a continuing effort to remind consumers that smoke alarms save lives, we will issue a news release in the spring and the fall to emphasize that consumers need to have and maintain their smoke alarms.

**Alert the public to fire-related hazards through:****9. *Press Releases***

CPSC will issue press releases and recall alerts to inform the public about products presenting a risk of fire-related death. In 2005, we issued 131 press releases and recall alerts on hazardous products.

**10. *Television Appearances***

To widely disseminate CPSC's safety messages, staff will use the mass media and television interviews and appearances on local and national network stations to discuss products that present fire hazards. To reach the public more effectively, we have focused our efforts on this new goal; we will continue to produce video news releases, as appropriate.

**11. *E-Publications***

Through our Web site, CPSC will inform consumers of fire hazards through the electronic distribution of safety alerts, fact sheets, and other Web publications. To reach the public more effectively while decreasing costs, we have focused our efforts on this new goal; we will continue to distribute hard-copy publications, as appropriate.



## B. ELECTROCUTION AND ELECTRIC SHOCK HAZARDS

### THE HAZARD

In 2001<sup>8</sup>, there were about 180 deaths from consumer product-related electrocutions. The annual number of electrocutions has declined by 28 percent from 1991 to 2001, largely because of past CPSC efforts. In 2003, there were an estimated 6,200 consumer product-related electric shock injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency rooms. Total societal costs in the U.S. associated with electrocutions and electric shock are about \$1.2 billion. CPSC continues to receive reports of electrocution deaths from products such as house wiring, lamps and light fixtures, power tools, and small and large appliances.

### 2007 ANNUAL ELECTROCUTION-RELATED GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Safety Standards</b>							
1. Prepare candidates for rulemaking	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	**	1
	<b>Actual</b>	0	0	0	0		
2. Complete data analysis and technical review activities	<b>Goal</b>	1	**	**	2	2	1
	<b>Actual</b>	1	--	--	1		
3. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions	<b>Goal</b>	**	2	2	1	2	2
	<b>Actual</b>	4	2	2	1		
<b>Compliance</b>							
4. Pursue for recall or other corrective action	<b>Goal</b>	15	15	20	25	24*	23*
	<b>Actual</b>	31	18	35	23		
<b>Consumer Information</b>							
5. Conduct public information efforts/partnerships	<b>Goal</b>	1	2	2	1	1	1
	<b>Actual</b>	3	2	2	1		
6. Issue press releases and recall alerts	<b>Goal</b>	8	8	15 <sup>#</sup>	15 <sup>#</sup>	21 <sup>#</sup>	20 <sup>#</sup>
	<b>Actual</b>	25	21	35	18		
7. Provide television interviews and appearances	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	4	4
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	3	4		
8. E-Publications viewed (in thousands)	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	110	105
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	116	118		

\*\*No goal established. --Data not available.

\*Estimate based on prior years' experience. The actual number of recalls, corrective actions, and standards monitored will depend on the mix of safety-related problems arising during the year.

<sup>#</sup>This goal now includes recall alerts.

<sup>8</sup>2001 is the latest year for which fatality data is available.

## **Safety Standards**

### **1. Prepare for Commission consideration 1 candidate for rulemaking or other alternatives.**

#### *Electric Toys*

After a preliminary review of the Electric Toy Regulation, staff identified several changes/updates needed to standards and improvements needed for warning labels. In 2006, we will conduct a technical assessment of related standards and review recommendations from interested parties to simplify the provisions for maximum allowable surface temperatures for electric toys and to address the emerging issue of outdoor electrical toys.

**Goal:** Staff will complete draft recommendations to change the requirements as appropriate in 2007.

### **2. Complete data analysis and technical review activities.**

#### *Self-Testing GFCIs*

Ground-fault circuit-interrupters (GFCIs) have contributed significantly to the reduction of electrocution and severe electric shock incidents since their introduction in the early 1970s. GFCIs, however, can fail so that an outlet can still provide power even though it no longer provides its safety function. There may be no warning that the GFCI is no longer providing shock protection. In 2005, staff met with industry to encourage the development of self-testing enhanced GFCIs. One manufacturer developed a self-testing GFCI for commercial applications and it is anticipated to be on the market in 2006. Staff will evaluate the design of the self-testing GFCI developed for commercial applications and we will work with industry to define the characteristics of a self-testing GFCI for residential use that will be less dependent on consumer interaction. A report of this evaluation will be completed in 2006.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will make recommendations for improvements to the voluntary standard, if appropriate, and continue to work with industry to enhance GFCIs.

### **3. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions.**

#### *Voluntary Standards*

Staff will monitor or participate in the development or modification of 2 voluntary standards for ground-fault circuit-interrupters and the National Electrical Code.

## Compliance

### 4. *Recalls*

Staff will identify and act on products that present a risk of electrocution by seeking recalls or other corrective actions. In 2005, we obtained 23 recalls or other corrective actions of products that presented an electrocution or electric shock hazard.

## Consumer Information

### Alert the public to electrocution hazards.

### 5. *Public Information Effort*

CPSC will develop and distribute a poster for use by the *Neighborhood Safety Network* partners to keep consumers vigilant of electrocution and electric shock hazards on topics like ground-fault circuit-interrupters, old power tools, and old hair dryers.

### 6. *Press Releases/Recall Alerts*

Staff will issue press releases and recall alerts for products presenting a risk of electrocution. In 2005, we issued 18 press releases and recall alerts to warn the public of products with a substantial risk of electrocution or electric shock.

### 7. *Television Appearances*

To widely disseminate CPSC's safety messages, staff will use the mass media and television interviews and appearances on local and national network stations to discuss products that present electrocution hazards. To reach the public more effectively, we have focused our efforts on this new goal; we will continue to produce video news releases, as appropriate.

### 8. *E-Publications*

Through our Web site, CPSC will inform consumers of electrocution hazards through the electronic distribution of safety alerts, fact sheets, and other Web publications. To reach the public more effectively while decreasing costs, we have focused our efforts on this new goal; we will continue to distribute hard-copy publications, as appropriate.



## CHILDREN'S HAZARDS

### INTRODUCTION

Hazards to children are associated with a wide-range of consumer products. Examples include: drowning hazards related to pools and other in-home products; choking and suffocation hazards related to some children's toys; strangulation, suffocation and entrapment risks to infants in their sleep environments; strangulation from window blind cords and clothing drawstrings; and various hazards with infant products, such as old or improperly constructed highchairs and strollers.

### 2007 RESOURCE CHANGES

Total dollars increase by \$458,000 to reflect the program's share of the agency request. FTEs decrease to reflect the agency-wide FTE reduction, as well as normal adjustments of staff time required to work on projects scheduled in 2007.

HAZARDS	2005 Actual		2006 Plan		2007 Request	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Children's Hazards	78	\$10,975	78	\$10,638	76	\$11,096

### THE HAZARD

We have had a significant impact in reducing injuries and deaths for a number of children's hazards. For example, we worked with industry to develop a voluntary safety standard to prevent baby walker-related head injuries from falls, developed a mandatory safety rule to make cigarette lighters child resistant for children under 5 years, reducing fires from child play; and recalled numerous toys and other products that present choking hazards to children.

## 2007 ANNUAL GOALS FOR CHILDREN'S HAZARDS

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Safety Standards</b>							
1. Complete testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review activities	<b>Goal</b>	8	4	9	11	7	4
	<b>Actual</b>	8	4	6	11		
2. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions	<b>Goal</b>	**	30	32	31	32	32
	<b>Actual</b>	32	30	32	32		
<b>Compliance</b>							
3. Pursue for recall or other corrective action	<b>Goal</b>	270	225	250	285	287*	272*
	<b>Actual</b>	267	262	312	301		
4. Monitor existing voluntary standards	<b>Goal</b>	2	1	2	2	2*	1*
	<b>Actual</b>	3	1	2	2		
5. Conduct import surveillance	<b>Goal</b>	**	1	1	1	1*	1*
	<b>Actual</b>	1	1	1	1		
<b>Consumer Information</b>							
6. Conduct public information efforts	<b>Goal</b>	3	6	9	6	5	4
	<b>Actual</b>	5	5	7	4		
7. Issue press releases and recall alerts	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	72 <sup>#</sup>	72 <sup>#</sup>	87 <sup>#</sup>	82 <sup>#</sup>
	<b>Actual</b>	67	73	95	93		
8. Provide television interviews and appearances	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	28	29
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	35	30		
9. E-Publications viewed (in thousands)	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	1,340	1,331
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	1,464	1,449		

\*\*No goal established for that year. --Data not available.

\*Estimate based on prior years' experience. The actual number of recalls, corrective actions, and standards monitored will depend on the mix of safety-related problems arising during the year.

<sup>#</sup>This goal now includes recall alerts.

### Safety Standards

#### 1. Complete 4 testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review activities.

##### *Children's Hazards Data Compilation*

National and local efforts to address hazards may be enhanced by the use of CPSC data that documents product-related hazards to children. This information could also be helpful to parents and caregivers who are interested in becoming knowledgeable about children's hazards.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will develop data on injuries and deaths to children that will cross hazard areas, and may include statistics related to fires, drowning hazards, poisoning from household chemicals, children's products, sports and recreational products, household products (such as window cords), and other hazard areas.

##### *Consumer Opinion Forum*

The CPSC Web site provides a venue to solicit important information from consumers who volunteer to provide responses to staff questions about specific consumer

behaviors. Such information, though not statistically valid, can be tremendously useful for framing questions for scientific surveys and providing information for future studies. It can also be valuable for cases where debates about "foreseeable uses" of products are strengthened by anecdotal behavioral data. Staff will maintain a subject list, ensure confidentiality, and evaluate operational procedures annually.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will provide continued support of the forum by developing sets of questions, posting questions as they are cleared for public dissemination, and retrieving and analyzing the results of the postings.

### *Model Programs*

At CPSC's 2004 pool safety hearings, a number of local programs/actions were identified that addressed drowning hazards. These programs will be examined in the context of CPSC's research on the factors that may influence changes in human behavior.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will evaluate these and other programs from around the country. If possible, key elements for successful safety campaigns will be identified and broad models for national and community drowning prevention programs will be developed.

### *Prevention Strategies for High Risk Populations*

Anecdotal data suggests that non-pool drowning incidents in and around the home often involve children from households of lower socio-economic status with fewer resources.

**Goal:** Staff will review non-pool home drowning incidents to identify available demographic and socio-economic information about these households. This information will be summarized in a report and may be used to develop strategies to target high-risk populations that might otherwise be missed in broad-based safety campaigns.

## **2. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions.**

### *Voluntary Standards*

Staff will monitor or participate in developing or revising various safety standards for children's products, including playground equipment, baby walkers, baby bath seats, toddler beds, infant carriers, suction release devices and strollers.

## Compliance

### Identify and act on products that present a risk of injury to children.

3. *Recalls*

Staff will obtain recalls or other corrective actions on hazardous products that present a substantial risk of injury to children or violate CPSC's safety standards. In 2005, we obtained 301 corrective actions relating to all children's hazards.
4. *Voluntary Standards Compliance*

Monitor 1 existing voluntary standard likely to reduce children's deaths or injuries.
5. *Import Surveillance*

Conduct 1 port-of-entry surveillance for children's products that present a substantial risk of injury to children. In 2005, with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, we detained about 110 shipments consisting of over 240,000 toys and other children's products, mainly for violations of the small parts regulation. The Office of International Programs and Intergovernmental Affairs will continue to conduct activities and create strategies aimed at ensuring greater import compliance with recognized safety standards.

## Consumer Information

### 6. Conduct 4 public information efforts.

- Annual Safety Round-Up*

We will conduct our annual major safety program focusing on recalled products still in the marketplace. For example, in 2006, we will conduct a major news event focusing on products that have been recalled. These efforts will highlight the need for childcare providers to visit our Web site, [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov), and the [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov) Web site. We are also planning to develop safety posters with our *Neighborhood Safety Network* partners.
- Back to School Safety*

CPSC is planning many coordinated activities to increase public awareness of child safety issues during the upcoming school year. Our campaign will continue to promote CPSC's *Back to School Safety Checklist*, which offers tips on making schools, childcare facilities, and playgrounds safer. We will issue a press release on back-to-school safety issues that includes safety tips to keep children safe.
- Smart Holiday Shopping*

During the fall holiday season, we will continue efforts to educate parents and caregivers on the appropriate products for appropriate ages. We will also continue at this time of

year to encourage consumers to be aware of the various Web sites that may assist them in the future to identify products of concern. As part of our drive to remove recalled products from the public domain, we will continue to build upon the success of our Web site, [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov), and the [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov) Web site for notifying consumers about recalled products. We will issue a news release to warn about the hazards associated with a wide range of children's products, such as toys, or infant products. We will also issue a VNR, safety poster, and other materials as necessary for use at the grassroots level.

### *Child Drowning Prevention*

We will expand our public information efforts, such as partnerships with child safety organizations, to continue our work in reducing child drownings. CPSC will continue to issue its annual news release and VNR before Memorial Day to inform consumers about drowning hazards to children associated with pools and standing water, such as may be found in buckets and bathtubs. Also as a part of this effort, we will issue a poster for our *Neighborhood Safety Network* partners about preventing in-home drowning.

### **Alert the public to the hazards of injuries to children.**

- 7. *Press Releases/Recall Alerts*** Staff will issue press releases and Web recall alerts to inform the public about products presenting a risk of injury to children. In 2005, we issued 93 press releases and recall alerts on hazardous children's products.
- 8. *Television Appearances*** To widely disseminate our safety messages, staff will use the mass media and television interviews and appearances on local and national network stations to discuss hazards from children's products. To reach the public more effectively, we have focused our efforts on this new goal; we will continue to produce video news releases, as appropriate.
- 9. *E-Publications*** Through our Web site, CPSC will inform consumers of other children's product hazards through the electronic distribution of safety alerts, fact sheets, and other Web publications. To reach the public more effectively while decreasing costs, we have focused our efforts on this new goal; we will continue to distribute hard-copy publications, as appropriate.

## CHEMICAL HAZARDS

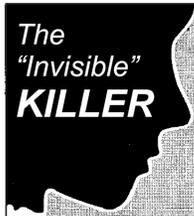
### INTRODUCTION

In this program, we address two chemical hazards: carbon monoxide (CO) poisonings, a long-term goal in CPSC's Strategic Plan, and other chemical poisonings, including child poisonings from drugs and other hazardous household substances and lead poisoning.

### 2007 RESOURCE CHANGES

Total dollars increase by \$473,000 to reflect the program's share of the agency request.

HAZARDS	2005 Actual		2006 Plan		2007 Request	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
<b>A. Carbon Monoxide Poisonings</b>	10	\$1,473	14	\$2,165	14	\$2,302
<b>B. Other Chemical</b>	40	5,946	38	5,300	38	5,636
<b>TOTAL</b>	50	\$7,419	52	\$7,465	52	\$7,938



### A. CARBON MONOXIDE POISONINGS

**STRATEGIC GOAL:** Reduce the rate of death from carbon monoxide poisoning by 20 percent from the 1999-2000 average by the year 2013.

### THE HAZARD

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a poisonous gas that has no smell, color, or taste -- truly an "invisible" killer. Burning any fuel, such as gas, oil, wood, or coal produces this gas, so that any fuel-burning appliance is a potential CO source. At higher concentrations in the blood, CO can cause cognitive impairment, loss of consciousness, coma, and death.

From 1999-2002, there was an annual average of 141 unintentional non-fire CO poisoning deaths associated with consumer products, at a societal cost of approximately \$705 million each year. Because some symptoms of moderate CO poisoning may mimic common illnesses, such as influenza or colds, there may be a high incidence of missed initial diagnoses. Not only are victims frequently unaware of exposure to CO, but also health care providers may not suspect, or check for, CO poisoning. While some symptoms

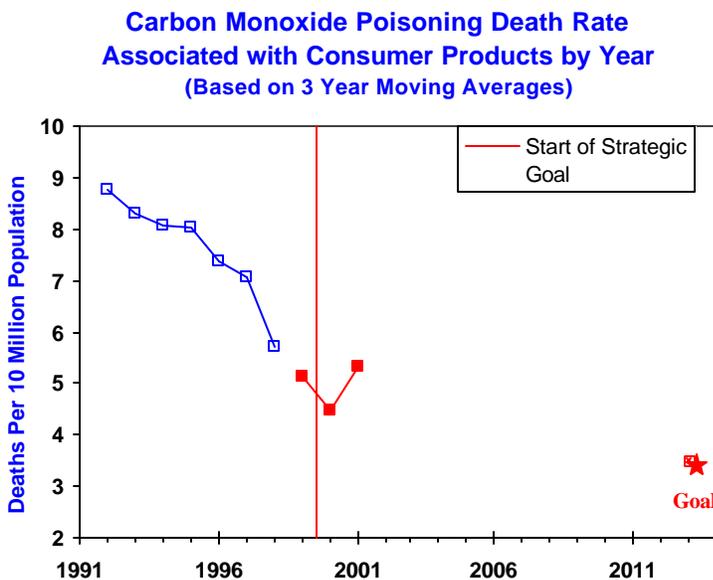
of CO poisoning are reversible, delayed neurological effects can develop following severe poisonings, especially those involving prolonged unconsciousness. Prompt medical attention is important to reduce the risk of permanent damage.

Most consumer product-related CO poisoning deaths are associated with the use of heating systems. Other consumer products associated with CO poisoning deaths include charcoal grills, gas water heaters, gas ranges and ovens, fuel-burning camping equipment, and engine-driven tools such as portable generators and power lawn mowers. Problems with chimneys, flues, or vents connected to fuel-burning products have also been mentioned in the fatal scenarios.

**OUR PROGRESS**

Under our previous Strategic Plans, we had a target to reduce the rate of CO poisoning deaths due to consumer products by 20 percent from 1994 to 2004. From 1994 to 1998, the death rate was reduced by 22 percent. To

further reduce the death rate, we retained this strategic goal in our Strategic Plan with a new target of 20 percent reduction by 2013 from the 1999-2000 average.



As shown in the graph on the left, there is a discontinuity of rates between 1999-2002 and the previous years. This discontinuity may be due, at least partially, to different methods used to estimate the number of deaths in the two time periods.<sup>9</sup>

We have been successful in the past in reducing deaths through a number of interventions, including: working with industry to encourage the development of new products to protect consumers from CO poisonings; working with industry to develop a voluntary performance standard for CO alarms; and warning the public about CO poisoning through information campaigns.

<sup>9</sup>The new method used after 1998 includes three changes: a change in the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), a change in methodology within CPSC, and inclusion of a new category of products in the estimates.

Recently, there has been an increase in the number of CO-related deaths, in part associated with the use of portable generators during natural disasters, such as hurricanes. Activities in our plan are designed to mitigate this increase.

## 2007 ANNUAL CARBON MONOXIDE-RELATED GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Safety Standards</b>							
1. Prepare and present recommendations to voluntary standards/code organizations	Goal	**	3	3	1	0	2
	Actual	0	2	2	1		
2. Complete testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review activities	Goal	3	2	0	3	3	2
	Actual	3	2	0	1		
3. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions	Goal	**	4	3	3	3	3
	Actual	4	4	3	3		
<b>Compliance</b>							
4. Pursue for recall or other corrective action	Goal	2	2	2	2	2*	2*
	Actual	11	2	1	2		
5. Monitor existing voluntary standards	Goal	**	**	1	**	1*	1*
	Actual	--	0	0	0		
<b>Consumer Information</b>							
6. Conduct public information efforts/partnerships	Goal	1	3	3	2	3	2
	Actual	3	3	3	2		
7. Issue press releases and recall alerts	Goal	1	1	5 <sup>#</sup>	5 <sup>#</sup>	8 <sup>#</sup>	7 <sup>#</sup>
	Actual	8	6	7	8		
8. Provide television appearances and interviews	Goal	**	**	**	**	3	4
	Actual	--	--	5	3		
9. E-Publications viewed (in thousands)	Goal	**	**	**	**	130	125
	Actual	--	--	122	146		

\*\*No goal established. --Data not available.

\*Estimate based on prior years' experience. The actual number of recalls, corrective actions, and standards monitored will depend on the mix of safety-related problems arising during the year.

<sup>#</sup>This goal now includes recall alerts.

### Safety Standards

#### 1. Prepare and present 2 recommendations to voluntary standards/code organizations to strengthen or develop a voluntary standard.

##### CO Alarms

83 deaths (1999-2001 annual average)

Many carbon monoxide-related deaths that occur in the home could be prevented by the use of CO alarms. In June 2004, staff made several recommendations to improve the performance and reliability of currently marketed CO alarms. Staff continue to have concerns about the long-term performance of these devices.

**Goal:** In 2007, based on the results of a long-term durability testing program, technology review, and field experience, staff will make necessary recommendations to the current UL standard for CO alarms, if needed.

### *Vented Gas Appliance CO Sensors*

67 deaths  
(1999-2002 annual average)

Gas-fired heating appliances continue to be a leading cause of unintentional CO poisoning deaths. In 2006, staff will demonstrate the use of sensor technology to provide shutdown response to hazardous levels of CO produced by malfunctioning gas furnaces.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will support and defend recommendations made in previous years, as well as make new recommendations where needed.

## **2. Complete 2 testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review activities.**

### *Portable Generators*

173 deaths  
(total from 1999 – 2004)

The contribution of generators to the total yearly estimated CO poisoning deaths has been increasing annually, from 6% in 1999 to 24% in 2002. Generators pose a severe risk of CO poisoning when used in enclosed areas such as basements, crawl spaces or garages (with doors open or closed) or outdoors near openings that allow the engine exhaust to enter occupied spaces.

In 2005, staff began investigating the feasibility of devices that will shut the engine down before an unsafe CO environment is created. Staff also continued to collect and analyze incident and market data. In 2006, staff will continue to investigate different risk-reduction strategies; complete feasibility assessments of interlock shut down devices; and prepare a decision package for Commission consideration with options for addressing the hazard.

**Goal:** In 2007, based on Commission direction, staff will continue to address CO poisoning associated with portable generators through technical and non-technical means. This may include testing to evaluate the feasibility of gas-sensing engine interlock devices and to assess technologies for low CO emission small utility engines.

### *Stand Alone Gas Appliances (Tank-Top Heaters)*

75 deaths  
(1999 – 2002 annual average)

Some of the CO poisoning deaths associated with heating systems are the result of consumers using alternate heat sources during power outages. A previous CPSC study indicated that many incidents also occur when consumers re-light pilot lights after the appliances have been shut down.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will develop prototype power/safety modules for sensing CO and shutting down appliances (or taking other appropriate actions) and test them to demonstrate feasibility and practicality in certain applications. The modules will be applied to different fuel-

fired appliances identified in 2005 as the most-likely appliances capable of generating sufficient power.

### **3. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions.**

#### *Voluntary Standards*

Staff will monitor or participate in developing or modifying voluntary standards for CO alarms, portable generators, and vented gas appliances (CO sensors).

### **Compliance**

#### **4. Recalls**

Staff will identify and act on products that present a risk of death from CO poisoning by obtaining recalls or other corrective actions for products that present a substantial risk of CO poisoning. In 2005, we obtained 2 recalls of products that presented a CO poisoning hazard.

#### **5. Voluntary Standards Compliance**

Monitor compliance with 1 existing voluntary standard likely to reduce CO poisoning-related deaths or injuries.

### **Consumer Information**

#### **6. Conduct 2 public information efforts and/or partnerships with a trade association or safety advocacy group.**

##### *Home Heating*

To remind the public of the continuing threat of CO in the home, we will highlight the need for routine maintenance of gas appliances. At the beginning of the home heating season, we will issue a seasonal warning about CO hazards from home heating equipment. Throughout the year, we will remind consumers of specific issues that include the need to change batteries in CO alarms and to have a routine furnace checkup completed. These activities may use posters, news releases, videos, and other similar media instruments.

##### *Portable Gas Generators*

During times of power loss, homeowners may be exposed to more CO because of improper use of consumer products, such as portable gas generators, to heat and provide power to their homes. We will use news releases and VNRs to address these dangers, especially during hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, and/or blizzards.

#### **Alert the public to the hazards of CO poisoning deaths.**

#### **7. Press Releases/Recall Alerts**

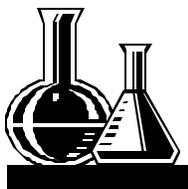
Staff will issue press releases or Web recall alerts for hazardous products presenting a risk of CO poisoning. In 2005, we issued 8 press releases and recall alerts related to CO hazards.

**8. *Television Appearances***

To widely disseminate CPSC's safety messages, staff will use the mass media and provide television interviews and appearances on local and national network stations to discuss products that present CO poisoning hazards. To reach the public more effectively, we have focused our efforts on this new goal; we will continue to produce video news releases, as appropriate.

**9. *E-Publications***

Through our Web site, CPSC will inform consumers of CO hazards through the electronic distribution of safety alerts, fact sheets, and other Web publications. To reach the public more effectively while decreasing costs, we have focused our efforts on this new goal; we will continue to distribute hard-copy publications, as appropriate.



## B. OTHER CHEMICAL HAZARDS

### THE HAZARD

Unintentional ingestion of toxic household chemicals is associated with an annual average of 34 deaths to children under age 5, and an estimated 74,000 children treated in hospital emergency rooms. There are about 1 million calls to Poison Control Centers involving children under 5 years of age. CPSC is responsible for administering the Poison Prevention Packaging Act (PPPA), under which the Commission may require special child-resistant packaging for household substances that are hazardous to children. CPSC further seeks to reduce or prevent deaths or injuries because of other poisonings, ingestion, inhalation, or dermal exposure from use of consumer products. The costs of injuries and deaths associated with products in the chemical hazard area are estimated to be in the billions of dollars based on respiratory diseases alone.

We have also played a prominent role in protecting children from the risk of lead poisoning and other chemical hazards. For example, CPSC action resulted in manufacturers eliminating the use of lead as a stabilizer in vinyl mini-blinds. We also developed and distributed guidance about lead on public playground equipment and children's jewelry; recalled crayons that contained hazardous levels of lead; recalled toys with lead paint; and issued a policy statement to manufacturers, retailers, distributors, and importers urging them to eliminate the use of lead and hazardous liquids in children's products.

## 2007 ANNUAL GOALS FOR OTHER CHEMICAL HAZARDS

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Safety Standards</b>							
1. Complete testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review activities	<b>Goal</b>	4	5	8	5	8	7
	<b>Actual</b>	3	5	8	5		
2. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions	<b>Goal</b>	**	2	2	2	5	4
	<b>Actual</b>	1	2	2	2		
<b>Compliance</b>							
3. Pursue for recall or other corrective action	<b>Goal</b>	55	70	90	110	142*	134*
	<b>Actual</b>	162	125	132	156		
<b>Consumer Information</b>							
4. Conduct public information effort	<b>Goal</b>	1	1	1	1	1	1
	<b>Actual</b>	1	1	1	1		
5. Issue press releases and recall alerts	<b>Goal</b>	**	5	6 <sup>#</sup>	5 <sup>#</sup>	22 <sup>#</sup>	21 <sup>#</sup>
	<b>Actual</b>	8	11	16	27		
6. Provide television interviews and appearances	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	10	13
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	16	13		
7. E-Publications viewed (in thousands)	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	250	241
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	266	269		

\*\*No goal established for that year. --Data not available.

\*Estimate based on prior years' experience. The actual number of recalls and other corrective actions will depend on the mix of safety-related problems arising during the year.

<sup>#</sup>This goal now includes recall alerts.

### Safety Standards

#### 1. Complete 7 testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review/report activities.

##### *Strong Sensitizer Definition*

Previous staff work in response to the latex petition identified the need to update the regulatory definition of "strong sensitizer" because of recent scientific advances and the United Nations GHS mandate. Work will continue on the review of sensitizers in consumer products, with revision as appropriate to CPSC's definition to address scientific advances and new risk assessment methods currently under development by federal agencies. In 2006, we will prepare a package with draft recommendations and supporting rationale for possible changes to the definition of strong sensitizer.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will proceed with this project as directed by the Commission.

*Childhood Sensitivity to Chronic Toxicants*

The possible sensitivity of children to chronic toxicants is a topic of current interest in the scientific community, regulatory agencies, and the general public.

**Goal:** Staff will perform a scientific literature search on issues and data relating to factors affecting children's (neonates through puberty) sensitivity to chronic hazards compared to adults. We will perform a critical review of this literature, as well as relevant work from other agencies or scientific bodies, and make a recommendation regarding whether to develop guidance or methodologies for use in CPSC risk assessments.

*Chronic Hazard Guidelines*

Work begun in 2004 will continue on the systematic review of the CPSC chronic hazard guidelines, with revision as appropriate to address scientific advances and new risk assessment methods.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will submit one section of the guidelines for peer review.

*Implementation of GHS for Labeling*

In 2006, staff will prepare a report that compares selected portions of the current Federal Hazardous Substances Act (FHSA) regulatory requirements to the corresponding Globally Harmonized System (GHS) classification and labeling requirements to determine what differences exist and what changes might need to be made in the regulations to address the GHS. This effort is part of our international activity to provide a more comprehensive and coordinated approach to safety standards development on a global level.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will finalize the 2006 report and continue work on this activity as appropriate.

*Interagency Coordination*

The purpose of this activity is to coordinate chemical hazard activities with other agencies, participate in international harmonization activities, and improve the scientific basis of agency risk assessments. Participation provides a number of advantages to CPSC: toxicity tests worth millions of dollars on chemicals of interest to CPSC are performed at no cost to CPSC; staff can pool limited resources with other federal agencies to obtain exposure data or other information; it encourages the development of similar interpretations of scientific data and harmonized risk assessment methods among federal agencies; and it supports international harmonization of chemical hazard assessment.

**Goal:** In 2007, if any alternative test methods are accepted by the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM), staff will review at least one of these. The Commission is obligated by the ICCVAM Authorization Act to respond to each test method validated by ICCVAM.

### *Pediatric Poisoning Fatalities Update*

CPSC has continued to track drugs and other hazardous household product-related pediatric poisoning fatalities for children under 5 years old in the U.S. The most recent data from the National Center for Health Statistics is for 2002. Child fatalities have declined substantially since the Poison Prevention Packaging Act became law, from 216 deaths in 1972 to an average of about 34 each year over the last three years.

**Goal:** Staff will update the annual report on Pediatric Poisoning Fatalities.

### *Special Packaging Study*

42 deaths to children < 5 (2002)  
74,000 emergency room-treated potential poisonings (2004)

The Poison Prevention Packaging Act defines "special packaging" as packaging that is difficult for children under five years of age to open within a reasonable time but not difficult for adults to use properly. Staff would like to measure and quantify the ease of operating different packaging types. These data could then be applied to calculate relative ease.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will design experiments to measure the ease of using a variety of packaging types. We will conduct a pilot study to optimize the testing conditions. We will then contract with a testing organization to conduct the testing on a larger scale.

## **2. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions.**

### *Voluntary Standards*

Staff will monitor or participate in voluntary standards activities related to child resistant packaging, CCA, lead in jewelry and flame retardant chemicals.

## **Compliance**

### **3. Recalls**

Staff will identify and act on products that present a risk of death from other chemical hazards by obtaining recalls or other corrective actions for violations of mandatory safety standards or for unregulated products that present a substantial risk of other chemical hazards. In 2005, we obtained 156 corrective actions of products that presented other chemical hazards.

## **Consumer Information**

### **4. Conduct 1 public information effort/partnership.**

#### *Poison Prevention*

During National Poison Prevention Week, we will issue a news release and coordinate a health and safety campaign by partnering with the Poison Prevention Week Council and related organizations to promote child-resistant packaging and other poison prevention measures. Throughout the year and during National Poison Prevention Week, we will promote the benefits of child-resistant packaging to prevent children's poisonings, using activities such as radio interviews, local press publications, and partnering with other injury prevention organizations, as appropriate.

### **Alert the public to the hazards of other chemical hazards.**

#### *5. Press Releases/Recall Alerts*

Staff will issue press releases or recall alerts to inform the public about hazardous products presenting a risk of chemical hazards. In 2005, we issued 27 press releases and recall alerts on other chemical hazards.

#### *6. Television Appearances*

To widely disseminate CPSC's safety messages, we will use the mass media and television interviews and appearances on local and national network stations to discuss products that present chemical hazards. To reach the public more effectively, we have focused our efforts on this new goal; we will continue to produce video news releases, as appropriate.

#### *7. E-Publications*

Through our Web site, CPSC will inform consumers of other chemical hazards through the electronic distribution of safety alerts, fact sheets, and other Web publications. To reach the public more effectively while decreasing costs, we have focused our efforts on this new goal; we will continue to distribute hard-copy publications, as appropriate.



## ***HOUSEHOLD AND RECREATION HAZARDS***

### **INTRODUCTION**

The household and recreation hazards addressed here are found throughout the nation's homes and affect many of our family activities. The resources used are small because some of the larger household and recreational hazards related to children's products or activities are covered under the activity "Reducing Hazards to Children." The remaining household and recreational hazards covered under this activity include such products as lawn and garden equipment, power tools, and recreational equipment.

### **2007 RESOURCE CHANGES**

Total dollars decrease by \$955,000 to reflect the program's share of the agency request. FTEs change to reflect normal adjustments of staff time required to work on projects scheduled in 2007.

<b>HAZARD</b>	<b>2005 Actual</b>		<b>2006 Plan</b>		<b>2007 Request</b>	
	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Household and Recreation</b>	51	\$6,902	59	\$8,609	54	\$7,654

### **THE HAZARD**

The annual societal cost to the nation of these hazards is at least \$66 billion. CPSC activities have made significant contributions to household and recreation safety. For example, we improved lawn mower safety by establishing a safety standard addressing blade contact. We estimate that this lawn mower standard saves about \$1 billion in societal costs annually. The agency also has been a leader in urging consumers to use safety gear when participating in recreational activities, such as biking, in-line skating, skiing, and scooter riding.

## 2007 ANNUAL GOALS FOR HOUSEHOLD AND RECREATION HAZARDS

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Safety Standards</b>							
1. Prepare candidate(s) for rulemaking	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	1	1
	<b>Actual</b>	0	0	0	0		
2. Complete testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review activities	<b>Goal</b>	2	2	4	5	4	3
	<b>Actual</b>	2	1	3	5		
3. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions	<b>Goal</b>	**	11	14	17	13	12
	<b>Actual</b>	8	15	18	19		
<b>Compliance</b>							
4. Pursue for recall or other corrective action	<b>Goal</b>	30	45	80	100	130*	123*
	<b>Actual</b>	135	84	123	148		
5. Monitor existing voluntary standards	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	1	1	0	1*
	<b>Actual</b>	--	0	0	1		
<b>Consumer Information</b>							
6. Conduct public information effort	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	1	2	1	1
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	0	1		
7. Issue press releases and recall alerts	<b>Goal</b>	20	20	50 <sup>#</sup>	50 <sup>#</sup>	116 <sup>#</sup>	110 <sup>#</sup>
	<b>Actual</b>	65	49	86	143		
8. Provide television interviews and appearances	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	15	14
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	13	16		
9. E-Publications viewed (in thousands)	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	135	140
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	150	158		

\*\*No goal established for that year. --Data not available.

\*Estimate based on prior years' experience. The actual number of recalls and other corrective actions will depend on the mix of safety-related problems arising during the year.

<sup>#</sup>This goal now includes recall alerts.

### Safety Standards

#### 1. Prepare for Commission consideration 1 candidate for rulemaking or other alternative.

##### *All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)*

740 estimated deaths (2003)

136,100 emergency room-treated injuries (2004)

In 2005, the Commission initiated rulemaking by issuing an ANPR. In 2006, staff will complete a review of ATV safety standards, ATV safety-related proposals, and existing ATV Letters of Undertaking and make recommendations regarding rulemaking or other actions that CPSC could take to reduce ATV-related deaths and injuries, including those that occur to young riders.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will continue with the rulemaking process or other options as directed by the Commission.

## 2. Complete 3 testing, data collection, or hazard analysis activities to evaluate the need for, or adequacy of, safety standards.

### *ATV Data Update*

**Goal:** Staff will provide an annual ATV death and injury data update report (updated periodically since 1982). The data includes the total number of ATV-related deaths, deaths by state, risk of death by year, annual estimates of ATV-related hospital emergency room-treated injuries, and injuries distributed by year and age grouping. Injury trend data is also provided.

### *Bicycle Integrity and Illumination*

80,000 injuries (2003)  
(bicycle integrity only)

The Federal Bicycle Regulation was last amended by CPSC in 1981. Since then, the evolution of bicycle technology has led to changes that are not currently covered by this standard. Voluntary standards coverage of new technology developments is limited. Bicycle injury rates remain high. While the majority of bicycle-related deaths occur during daylight hours, CPSC staff determined that a bicyclist is 2 to 4 times as likely to get killed riding at night as compared to daytime. In 2006, staff plans to review current data, bicycle lighting standards, and the bicycle lighting market. We will initiate work with ASTM to develop minimum requirements for bicycle detection and recognition. In 2006, we plan to complete selected bicycle testing and perform data analysis.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will complete a technical test report and develop a draft list of proposed revisions for relevant standards, both voluntary and mandatory, as appropriate.

### *Senior Safety*

From 1997 to 2002, there has been an increase in injuries to seniors. The rate of injury for persons 65 and older is higher than for adults ages 20 to 64. In addition, the rate of injuries to persons 75 and older is approximately twice that of persons 65 to 74. In 2005, staff completed a hazard screening report for persons 65 and older and in 2006, staff plans to complete a human factors evaluation of data.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will develop product design guidance and potential design concepts to reduce the risk of injury or death to senior users based on the human factors work completed in 2006. Model product designs will be characterized and prototypes of promising candidates may be developed.

### 3. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions.

#### *Voluntary Standards*

Staff will monitor or participate in voluntary standards activities related to products including ATVs, bicycles, garage door and gate operators, ride-on mowers, portable amusement rides, table and portable circular saws, motorized scooters, and hunting tree stands.

### **Compliance**

#### **Identify and act on products that present a risk of household or recreation hazards through:**

#### 4. *Recalls*

Staff will obtain recalls or other corrective actions for violations of mandatory safety standards and for unregulated products that present substantial hazards. In 2005, we obtained 148 corrective actions relating to household or recreation hazards.

#### 5. *Voluntary Standards Compliance*

Staff will monitor 1 existing voluntary standard likely to reduce household and recreation hazards.

### **Consumer Information**

### 6. Conduct 1 public information effort.

#### *All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)*

We will continue information and education activities begun in 2006 focusing on preventing injuries and deaths to both children and adults from ATVs. We will continue to focus on states with the highest proportion of injuries and deaths, using grassroots communication tools, such as local media tours and distribution of editorials for print media. In addition, a multi-faceted Web page will be promoted with information for state officials, parents, children, and the press.

#### **Alert the public to the hazards of household and recreation hazards.**

#### 7. *Press Releases/Recall Alerts*

Staff will issue press releases and recall alerts to inform the public about products presenting a risk of a household or recreation hazard. In 2005, we issued 143 press releases and recall alerts that addressed household and recreation-related hazards.

#### 8. *Television Appearances*

To widely disseminate CPSC's safety messages, staff will use the mass media and television interviews and appearances on local and national network stations to discuss

products that present household and recreational product hazards. To reach the public more effectively, we have focused our efforts on this new goal; we will continue to produce video news releases, as appropriate.

**9. *E-Publications***

Through our Web site, we will inform consumers of household and recreational product-related hazards through the electronic distribution of safety alerts, fact sheets, and other Web publications. To reach the public more effectively while decreasing costs, we have focused our efforts on this new goal; we will continue to distribute hard-copy publications.



## INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

### THE PROGRAM

Over one-third of all consumer products under CPSC jurisdiction are imports, and over two-thirds of CPSC recalls involve imported products. In an effort to ensure greater import compliance with American safety standards, CPSC established the Office of International Programs and Intergovernmental Affairs (IPIA). This Office coordinates efforts with other countries regarding safety standards development and harmonization, and inspection and enforcement coordination. A major emphasis of this program is helping foreign manufacturers establish product safety systems as an integral part of manufacturing. CPSC provides background information and rationale as well as suggestions for how to implement a comprehensive, systematic approach to manufacturing safe products that will comply with U.S. standards, thus reducing consumer product-related deaths and injuries. This program cuts across all hazard types and complements all other CPSC work.

A major accomplishment of IPIA was the signing of an Action Plan on Consumer Product Safety with the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) of the People's Republic of China in August 2005. The Plan (<http://www.cpsc.gov/businfo/china/planaction.pdf>) outlines specific cooperative actions to be taken by AQSIQ and CPSC to improve the safety of consumer products manufactured in China for sale in the United States. Planned activities include a biennial Consumer Product Safety Summit, annual meetings of Working Groups in four priority product areas (cigarette lighters, electrical products, fireworks, and toys), an Urgent Consultation mechanism, and technical cooperation, training, and assistance.

### 2007 RESOURCE CHANGES

Total dollars increase by \$25,000 to reflect the program's share of the agency request.

Activity	2005 Actual		2006 Plan		2007 Request	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
International Programs and Intergovernmental Affairs	8	\$850	5	\$625	5	\$650

Note: These resources shown are also included in the program resources for the agency's two major programs: Reducing Hazards to Children and Families and Identifying Product Hazards.

## 2007 ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs)</b>							
1. Agreements with foreign countries	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	3	3
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	2	4		
2. Annual MOU review	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	5	5
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	--	--		
<b>China Program</b>							
3. Industry-specific safety seminars	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	1	1
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	--	--		
4. Retail/Vendor training seminars	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	1	1
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	--	--		
5. Biennial summit	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	**	1
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	--	1		
6. Working groups	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	2	2
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	--	--		
7. Dialogues with stakeholders	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	1	1
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	--	--		
8. China program plan update	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	**	**	1	1
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	--	--		

\*\*No goal established for that year.

### Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs):

#### *1. Agreements with Foreign Countries*

CPSC has MOUs with a number of foreign governments. These agreements, signed with CPSC's counterpart agencies in other countries or regions, establish closer working relationships between the signatories, provide for a greater and more significant exchange of information regarding consumer product safety, and may include plans for informational seminars and training programs. By the end of 2006, CPSC expects to have signed MOUs with nine countries.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff anticipates signing MOUs with three additional countries.

#### *2. Annual MOU Review*

Once MOUs are in place, annual review is required in some cases to keep the documents and agreements current.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will review 5 MOUs.

## **China Program:**

### *3. Industry-specific Safety Seminars*

Trade fairs in China present an opportunity to conduct safety seminars with manufacturers in targeted industry areas. There also may be opportunities to present keynote or plenary addresses during trade shows to emphasize CPSC's safety message.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff plans to conduct 1 safety seminar at a trade fair in China.

### *4. Retail/Vendor Training Seminars*

Many major U.S. retailers have a "direct source" relationship with their Chinese vendors, i.e., they have an arrangement with specific vendors to manufacture specific goods for sale in their stores. Most of the retailers hold annual, semi-annual, and/or other regular meetings with these vendors.

**Goal:** In 2006, staff will conduct at least one safety training seminar at a scheduled vendor meeting.

### *5. Biennial Summit*

In 2005, the first biennial Sino-American Consumer Product Safety Summit was held in Beijing, China, and was jointly organized by China's General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) and CPSC. The Summit provides a platform for both countries to determine the nature of bilateral cooperation on consumer product safety, set objectives, decide tasks, and discuss issues of mutual concern.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff plans to hold the second Sino-American Consumer Product Safety Summit.

### *6. Working Group Meetings*

Working Groups were convened at the first biennial Sino-American Consumer Product Safety Summit (August-September 2005) around industry areas of particular concern. These include the necessity for child-resistant testing of cigarette lighters, recalls of electrical products, compliance of fireworks with CPSC regulations, and common practices in toy testing. Two of the working groups are scheduled to meet again in 2006.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff plans to hold Working Group Meetings in two priority product areas.

*7. Dialogues with Stakeholders*

The benefits of stakeholder input to the direction and scope of CPSC's activities with China are immeasurable. Staff anticipates future dialogues and public meetings to solicit ideas on the direction of the program and to obtain feedback on staff work such as the CPSC Conformity Assessment Message.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff plans to hold one public Roundtable Meeting to discuss an aspect of CPSC's China Program.

*8. China Program Plan Update*

In May 2005, staff published the "International Consumer Product Safety Program Plan – China" detailing activities to be undertaken to improve the safety of consumer products imported from China. The plan will be modified each year based on experience gained after implementing proposed activities, as well as stakeholder input, including consultation with CPSC's counterpart in the Chinese government.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff plans to update the China Program Plan.

## BUDGET PROGRAM: Identifying Product Hazards

The work in this program provides the information needed to assess product hazards and apply hazard reduction strategies. The program has two activities: Data Collection and Emerging Hazards/Data Utility.

**2007 RESOURCE CHANGES** Total dollars increase by \$422,000 to reflect the program's share of the agency request. Included in this change is an increase of \$400,000 in NEISS hospital data collection costs. FTEs change within the activities of the program to reflect agency-wide FTE reductions as well as normal adjustments of staff time required to work on projects scheduled in 2007.

Activities	2005 Actual		2006 Plan		2007 Request	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
<b>A. Data Collection</b>	85	\$10,600	74	\$11,009	71	\$11,432
<b>B. Emerging Hazards/Data Utility</b>	13	1,961	11	1,456	10	1,455
<b>TOTAL</b>	98	\$12,561	85	\$12,465	81	\$12,887

### HOW WE IDENTIFY HAZARDS

CPSC collects data on consumer product-related injuries and deaths, as well as economic and hazard exposure information, for products under our jurisdiction. We also investigate specific injury cases to gain additional knowledge about injuries or hazards and how the reported product was involved. We systematically analyze this information to determine where hazards exist and how to address them. These activities reflect the agency's commitment to making decisions based on appropriate data analyses. This work provides underlying support to all of CPSC's safety activities.

**Product-Related Injuries.** Each year, we collect information about product-related injuries treated in hospital emergency rooms through our National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS). This unique system provides statistically valid national estimates of product-related injuries from a probability sample of hospital emergency rooms and is the foundation for many CPSC activities. Several foreign governments have modeled their national injury data collection systems after CPSC's system. Annually, NEISS supplies over 360,000 product-related cases from a sample of about 100 hospitals. The hospitals

transmit incident information electronically and, in some cases, the data is available within 24 hours after an incident.

In 2000, NEISS was expanded to provide data on all trauma-related injuries. This expanded data provides other Federal agencies, researchers, and the public with more comprehensive information on injuries from all sources, not just consumer products. The Institute of Medicine recommended the expansion of NEISS into an all-injury system. The effort is being supported by reimbursable funds of \$2 million from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The reimbursable funds allow us to collect non-consumer product injury data, while we continue collecting product injury data with CPSC funds.

**Product-Related Deaths.** CPSC also collects mortality data. We purchase, review, and process about 8,000 death certificates each year covering unintentional product-related deaths from all 50 states. Our Medical Examiner and Coroner Alert Project collects and reviews approximately 4,400 additional reports from participating medical examiners and coroners throughout the country. We also collect and review about 8,000 news clips and 12,000 other reports of product-related injuries and deaths from consumers, lawyers, physicians, fire departments, and others.

**Fire-Related Injuries and Deaths.** Staff will begin an evaluation of the new system for collecting fire death data in 2006 based on a review of the data collected on fires for 1999. Additional death data collection and investigation for this new system is being suspended pending this review, resulting in temporary cost savings. The new system involves collecting fire incident data from fire departments and death certificates with follow-up investigations of incidents. In 2007, we may resume collection and analysis of fire death data and will continue to collect and evaluate fire injury data.

**Data Utility/Emerging Hazards.** CPSC staff has systematically reviewed death and injury data and associated cost data by product grouping (such as heating, cooking, ventilating equipment, general household appliances, children's products, and home workshop tools) and conducted other emerging hazard reviews. We are conducting special studies in areas identified by the strategic planning process, data reviews, or other staff activity. An investigation begins with careful review of all incoming reports to identify those most important for further study.

These cases are followed up with a telephone interview and continued, if appropriate, with an on-site investigation when information is needed on how specific types of injuries occurred. The resulting information shows the interaction among the victim, the product, and the environment, and forms the basis for developing appropriate remedial strategies. We also continue to screen all incoming data daily to identify products that may be associated with increasing numbers of injuries.

We continue to conduct economic studies to provide specialized economic information to staff, Commissioners, other agencies, and the public. Staff develops injury cost projections to estimate potential benefits associated with agency actions. We generate estimates of products-in-use to determine potential recall effectiveness, consumer exposure to product hazards, and support of agency hazard analysis work.

The public may file a petition requesting that CPSC regulate a consumer product under its jurisdiction. In response to these petitions, staff may prepare briefing packages for Commission consideration to grant or deny the petitions.

## **SETTING TARGETS**

For 2007, we reduced resource levels on a prorated basis and annual performance targets by 5 percent to reflect resource reductions. The 2007 performance targets, after further analysis by the Commission, may have to be adjusted in our 2007 operating plan.



## A. DATA COLLECTION

### THE PROGRAM

This program provides the information needed to assess product hazards and develop injury reduction strategies; it is the agency's early warning system. CPSC collects data on consumer product-related injuries and deaths, as well as economic and hazard exposure information, for those products under our jurisdiction. We also investigate specific injury cases to gain additional knowledge about injuries or hazards and how the reported product was involved. These activities reflect the agency's commitment to making decisions based on appropriate data analyses. The work provides underlying support to all of CPSC's Results Act activities.

In 2007, we will continue to strengthen our data collection and analysis process. Past improvements include: the purchase of annual data on poisonings to children; a study of the long-term costs of head injuries; and the development of a new statistically valid system to collect fire death and injury data. Funding of \$400,000 is added for increased NEISS hospital data collection costs. Since 1998, the number of cases increased 21 percent (from 300,000 to 364,000) and the cost per case increased by 18 percent (from \$3.22 to \$3.81).

### 2007 ANNUAL DATA COLLECTION GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
1. Evaluate, train, and audit each hospital in the NEISS sample	<b>Goal</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	95%	95%
	<b>Actual</b>	100%	100%	98%	99%		
2. Capture the product-related cases	<b>Goal</b>	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	<b>Actual</b>	94%	94%	93%	92%		
3. Complete headquarters telephone investigations in fewer than 45 business days	<b>Goal</b>	85%	85%	85%	90%	90%	90%
	<b>Actual</b>	95%	99%	100%	99%		
4. Complete field telephone and onsite investigations in fewer than 45 business days	<b>Goal</b>	85%	85%	85%	90%	85%	85%
	<b>Actual</b>	89%	90%	90%	96%		
5. Sustain the number of onsite investigations	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	1,200	1,200	1,577	1,494
	<b>Actual</b>	1,327	1,334	1,523	1,746		
6. Sustain the number of incident reports collected from medical examiners and coroners	<b>Goal</b>	2,800	3,600	3,600	3,600	4,161	3,942
	<b>Actual</b>	4,165	3,774	4,514	4,428		
7. Sustain the number of incident reports collected from news clips	<b>Goal</b>	5,000	6,000	7,000	7,000	8,097	7,671
	<b>Actual</b>	7,101	8,131	7,870	8,766		

\*\*No goal established.

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**Maintain the quality of injury data.**

1. *Monitoring Hospitals* Staff will conduct at least one evaluation visit at 95 percent of the hospitals in the NEISS sample. Evaluation visits provide CPSC staff an opportunity to review hospital records and assure that hospital coders are capturing and reporting data on the highest possible percentage of reportable cases.
2. *Capturing Product-Related Cases* The results of the audits in each hospital should indicate that NEISS hospitals are reporting over 90 percent of the product-related cases. A high reporting percentage is necessary to assure the integrity of the estimates. Remedial action would be implemented in any hospital missing significant numbers of reportable cases.

**Identify and investigate product hazards in the field.**

3. *Telephone Investigations (Headquarters)* Staff will complete at least 90 percent of investigations in fewer than 45 business days. The headquarters telephone investigations provide valuable information on specific NEISS cases of interest to CPSC analysts. Analysts must receive this data as quickly as possible to support hazard reduction activities.
4. *Telephone/On-site Investigations (Field) - Timeliness* Field staff will complete at least 85 percent of telephone and on-site investigations in fewer than 45 business days. These investigations provide valuable information on cases of interest to CPSC analysts. Analysts must receive this data as quickly as possible to support hazard reduction activities.
5. *Number of On-site Investigations (Field)* Field staff will complete 1,494 onsite investigations. Onsite investigations will maintain both the timeliness and quality of our information.
6. *Medical Examiner/Coroner Reports* Staff will obtain 3,942 medical examiner/coroner reports. These reports provide critical information on product-related deaths. The data is especially valuable because it is generally received soon after the incident and provides some detail on how the incident occurred.
7. *News Clips* Staff will obtain 7,671 incident reports from news clips. CPSC relies on clips from newspapers in all 50 states to identify incidents. These clips provide many reports of product-related deaths, serious injuries, and hazardous fires. The reports fill gaps in reporting from other data systems and provide a very important source of incidents to investigate in support of hazard identification and analysis activities.

## B. EMERGING HAZARDS/DATA UTILITY



**STRATEGIC GOAL: Improve the utility of CPSC's data through 2009 by developing and implementing a more systematic method to identify new strategic goal areas, hazard reduction projects, and remedial actions.**

### THE PROGRAM

Improvements in the overall utility of CPSC data are necessary for the agency to focus its limited resources effectively. To improve the utility of the data, we will more systematically review and analyze death and injury data and identify areas where we must obtain more information in order to develop effective strategies to reduce deaths and injuries.

Each year, CPSC collects incident data involving consumer products. Incidents are screened on a daily basis and routinely summarized. Selected incident information is expanded by conducting follow-up investigations of individual incidents, either by telephone or through on-site visits. The follow-up investigations provide an opportunity to examine the interaction between the product involved in the incident, the environment in which the incident occurred, and the injured person.

While these methods have worked effectively in the past, increasingly limited resources require that we target agency efforts more systematically and prioritize our efforts through the strategic planning process. Staff has developed and implemented a new data review system that will identify promising strategic goal areas and hazard reduction projects to incorporate into our Strategic Plan, as well as provide insight into potential remedial actions.

## 2007 ANNUAL DATA UTILITY GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
1. Complete analysis of product areas and other emerging hazard reviews	<b>Goal</b>	**	2	4	4	4	2
	<b>Actual</b>	--	2	5	6		
2. Conduct special studies	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	1	2	2	2
	<b>Actual</b>	--	0	1	2		
3. Conduct special economic studies	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	10	8	8	8
	<b>Actual</b>	19	9	10	8		
4. Respond to petitions	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	3	3	3*	3*
	<b>Actual</b>	3	4	5	3		

\*\*No goal established. --Data not available.

\*This goal is an estimate based on prior years' experience. The actual number of petition responses will be based on the number of petitions the Commission receives and other safety-related issues that arise during the year.

### 1. *Product Area/Emerging Hazard Analyses*

Staff will conduct systematic reviews of injury, incident, death, market, and cost data on a variety of product-related hazard areas and conduct other emerging hazard reviews. As appropriate, injury and death data, poison control center data, market/exposure data, toxicity data, medical/physiological/engineering analysis, literature searches, and laboratory assessments will be used to identify and evaluate new and existing hazards.

### 2. *Special Studies*

Staff will conduct special studies such as those using telephone interviews and on-site investigations to determine the circumstances surrounding injuries or deaths associated with a product or hazard of interest.

### 3. *Special Economic Studies*

Staff will conduct economic studies to provide injury cost estimates; estimates of product life and numbers in use; and general and small business impacts, such as costs of production, environmental impact, labeling, and recalls. We will maintain econometric models through periodic review to assure that methodological approaches and models are current and adequate for CPSC use.

### 4. *Petitions*

Staff will prepare briefing packages in response to petitions. In 2005, staff prepared briefing packages in response to petitions on sulfuric acid drain openers, all-terrain vehicles, and unit-dose packaging.



## QUALITY AND MANAGEMENT GOALS

### INTRODUCTION

In support of our two core budget programs, “Reducing Hazards to Children and Families” and “Identifying Product Hazards,” we conduct activities designed to maintain and improve outstanding agency service and management. In the area of service quality, we focus on ways to better provide industry service, satisfy our customers, and improve the quality of our data. We have both long-term strategic goals and annual performance goals in each service quality area. We also have annual performance goals in response to the President’s Management Agenda.

These activities are in support of our core program effort, thus the resources devoted to the Quality and Management Goals are also included in the resources shown earlier for the core programs. Increases in dollar resources reflect the prorated share of the agency request to partially maintain current services, as well as other programs.

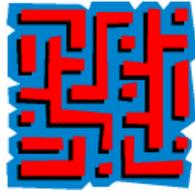
### 2007 RESOURCE CHANGES

Total dollars decrease by \$35,000 to reflect the program’s share of the agency request. FTEs change within the activities of the program to reflect agency wide FTE reductions as well as normal adjustments of staff time required to work on projects scheduled in 2007.

Activities	2005 Actual		2006 Plan		2007 Request	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
<b>A. Data Quality</b>	1.7	\$212	2	\$262	2	\$275
<b>B. Industry Services</b>	15	1,530	14	1,519	13	1,481
<b>C. Customer Satisfaction</b>	17	2,416	14	2,054	13	2,003
<b>D. President’s Management Agenda</b>	5	495	7	809	7	850
<b>TOTAL</b>	38.7	\$4,653	37	\$4,644	35	\$4,609

Note: These resources shown are also included in the program resources for the agency’s two major programs: Reducing Hazards to Children and Families and Identifying Product Hazards.

## A. DATA QUALITY



**STRATEGIC GOAL: Improve the quality of CPSC's data through 2009 by improving the accuracy, consistency, security, and completeness of CPSC's data.**

### THE PROGRAM

Improvements in the overall quality of CPSC data are necessary if the agency is to achieve its mission in the future, both in the near term and in the long run. The quality of in-house databases that track agency activity needs to be upgraded and better maintained. Failure to improve these basic operations could present significant risks to future agency functioning.

Data quality refers to fitness-of-use, including accuracy and reliability, of the data held within our computer systems. Further evaluation of our data systems would, for example, determine whether the data had been entered accurately, is internally consistent and complete, and is secure. While most of CPSC's data systems already meet these criteria, a few do not. To improve data quality in these areas, we will need to determine what problems exist and find data quality tools, policies, and processes to improve these systems.

### 2007 ANNUAL DATA QUALITY GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
1. Identify, develop and implement improvement activities	Goal	**	**	**	**	2	1
	Actual	--	--	--	--		
2. Conduct data quality planning activities	Goal	**	**	1	1	1	1
	Actual	--	0	1	1		
3. Identify, develop, and implement activities for data quality improvement	Goal	**	**	2	3	3	3
	Actual	--	0	1	3		

\*\*No goal established. --Data not available.

## **1. Identify, develop, and implement improvement activities resulting from assessment recommendations.**

### *Implementation Activities*

Improvement on the sample tracking database will be implemented starting in early to mid-2007. Depending on the tasks selected, the full implementation of all data improvement tasks may not be completed until 2008.

## **2. Conduct data quality planning activities.**

### *Follow-up Evaluation*

Improvements implemented in the Integrated Field System (IFS) in 2006 will be evaluated for impact in 2007 and 2008. Planning for this evaluation will take place once improvement tasks have been selected and a timeline for implementation has been written. A time lag between planning and evaluation will be necessary to have system improvements take hold in the IFS data. Depending on improvements selected, the actual evaluation is not expected to start until either the end of 2007 or 2008.

## **3. Identify, develop, and implement assessment activities for data quality improvement.**

### *Baseline Data*

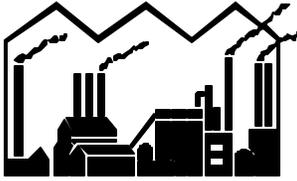
One of the team's first tasks will be to collect several different sources of performance data on the selected third database and its use. We will use this data to develop an overall baseline from which we will investigate possible improvements. Data quality is being defined by characteristics such as: utility, accuracy, consistency, completeness, and security of the database.

### *Data Assessment*

Once the team has collected the baseline data, it will analyze the information and describe the overall condition of the third database and associated processes. This task will result in a baseline report that all stakeholders will have the opportunity to review and critique.

### *Barriers and Costs*

The baseline report may result in ideas for improvement that will need to be evaluated for barriers and cost. Some of these barriers could include high workload and resource reductions, objectives that reward productivity over data quality, or inadequate computer software or hardware. The team will review identified barriers and assess the benefits and costs of performing each suggested improvement. From this review, a list of possible improvement tasks will be ranked for feasibility and overall need.



## **B. INDUSTRY SERVICES**

**STRATEGIC GOAL: Maintain success with the timeliness and usefulness of the Fast-Track Product Recall and the Small Business Ombudsman programs for industry through 2010.**

### **THE PROGRAM**

CPSC's Compliance function ensures that firms comply with the laws, regulations, and safety standards that protect consumers from hazardous and defective products. When a violation of a safety standard is found or a defective product is identified, we work cooperatively and quickly with industry to obtain an appropriate corrective action, which can include recall of the hazardous product.

We administer two programs to assist industry: the Fast-Track Product Recall (Fast-Track) and Small Business Ombudsman programs. Under the Fast-Track program, a firm that reports a hazardous product and recalls it quickly avoids a CPSC staff preliminary determination that its product presents a substantial risk of injury. Other advantages of this program for industry include reductions in paperwork, red tape, and legal expenses related to the recall of potentially defective products. For CPSC, advantages of this program include removing hazardous products from consumers and the marketplace more quickly and a reduction in staff time to process the recall. To date, over 1,100 firms have participated in the program, resulting in over 1,700 product recalls involving over 200 million product units. The Fast-Track program has been cited as outstanding by both government and private organizations.

With the Small Business Ombudsman program, we help small businesses comply more easily with product safety guidelines to manufacture safer products. This program provides firms with a single point of contact that expedites a clear and understandable response from our technical staff. To date, we have helped about 2,700 small businesses through CPSC's Ombudsman. Our program was cited in the National Ombudsman Report to Congress on Regulatory Fairness as one of the best programs in the Federal Government.

## 2007 ANNUAL INDUSTRY SERVICES GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
1. Initiate a recall within 20 days	<b>Goal</b>	90%	90%	95%	95%	90%	90%
	<b>Actual</b>	95%	95%	96%	94%		
2. Respond to requests within 3 business days	<b>Goal</b>	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
	<b>Actual</b>	99%	88%	82%	94%		
3. Develop guidance documents	<b>Goal</b>	5	5	5	5	5	5
	<b>Actual</b>	5	7	8	8		

### 1. *Fast Track Timeliness*

Staff will complete a technical review and initiate a recall within 20 days 90 percent of the time for the Fast-Track Program.

### 2. *Ombudsman Timeliness*

Staff will respond to requests from small businesses through the CPSC Small Business Ombudsman within 3 business days 80 percent of the time.

### 3. *Guidance Documents*

Staff will develop brief guides or other guidance documents for CPSC regulations, where most of our compliance efforts have been targeted, so that industry can quickly and easily understand how to comply. Five additional guidance documents will be developed to explain regulations, other policies or procedures, or to assist industry in complying with CPSC regulations.



## C. CUSTOMER SATISFACTION WITH CPSC SERVICES

**STRATEGIC GOAL: Sustain the high level of customer satisfaction with the CPSC Web site, hotline, Clearinghouse, and State Partnership Program at 90 percent or better through the year 2010.**

### THE PROGRAM

In addition to our work reducing hazards associated with consumer products, we provide additional services to the public in the form of information services, including the agency's Internet Web site, hotline, the National Injury Information Clearinghouse, and the State Partners Program. These resources are used both to provide safety information to, and receive information from, the public. Customer satisfaction with these services is vital if CPSC is to fulfill its mission.

Our Web site ([www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)) provides Internet access to CPSC resources and allows the public to view information about recalled products, report unsafe product incidents, request information, and download safety information. The hotline is a toll-free service that allows consumers to report product complaints or product-related injuries, learn about recalls and safety hazards, and obtain safety publications. The National Injury Information Clearinghouse provides data to the public in response to over 2,500 requests each year. It also alerts manufacturers to potential hazards associated with their products, providing them with consumer complaints, reported incidents, and incident investigations involving their products. Our State Partners Program, using limited CPSC funds and CPSC-developed safety information, brings product safety services to consumers through cooperative programs with state and local governments. The program extends our reach throughout the nation.

## 2007 ANNUAL CUSTOMER SATISFACTION GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>CPSC Web Site</b>							
1. CPSC Web site visits (in millions)	<b>Goal</b>	7.0	8.0	10.0	11.0	18.0	18.0
	<b>Actual</b>	7.9	9.2	11.9	13.7		
<b>Hotline Services (1-800-638-2772)</b>							
2. Respond to voicemail messages the next business day	<b>Goal</b>	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%
	<b>Actual</b>	86%	92%	96%	86%		
3. Process incident reports within 8 working hours	<b>Goal</b>	85%	85%	90%	95%	95%	95%
	<b>Actual</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%		
<b>National Injury Information Clearinghouse</b>							
4. Mail incident information for verification to consumers within 2 business days	<b>Goal</b>	95%*	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%
	<b>Actual</b>	100%	98%	99%	95%		
5. Provide manufacturers with verified incidents and investigations within 48 business days	<b>Goal</b>	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	<b>Actual</b>	79%	95%	95%	95%		
6. Provide responses to requests within 7 business days	<b>Goal</b>	95% <sup>#</sup>	95% <sup>#</sup>	95% <sup>#</sup>	95% <sup>#</sup>	95%	95%
	<b>Actual</b>	96%	97%	97%	99%		
<b>State Partners Program</b>							
7. Conduct product safety activities	<b>Goal</b>	50	50	150	120	183	174
	<b>Actual</b>	140	287	195	179		
8. Conduct recall checks, inspections, and investigations within 90 days	<b>Goal</b>	900	900	740	740	922	873
	<b>Actual</b>	979	924	1,180	916		

\*\*No goal established.

\*Goal was for consumer complaints reported through the hotline only; starting in 2003, we now include those reported from all sources.

<sup>#</sup>Starting in 2006, this goal was changed from 5 to 7 business days.

### CPSC Web Site

#### 1. Web Site Visits

CPSC's Web site ([www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)) was established to widen and speed public access to important safety information. The site started out simply, allowing for the retrieval of basic information such as press releases (usually announcing product recalls) and the agency's public meeting calendar. Over time, new features have been added, such as allowing the public to make online reports of product hazards and providing the ability to search and download data from our National Electronic Information Surveillance System (NEISS).

The number of users of the Web site has grown rapidly from about 200,000 visits in 1997 to about 13.7 million visits in 2005. Based on a customer feedback survey and a review of

our Web site, we plan to implement changes that will improve the ability to access safety information.

**Goal:** In 2007, we anticipate that we will have 18 million visits to CPSC's Web site.

### **Hotline Services (1-800-638-2772)**

#### **2. Voicemail**

The hotline maintains high levels of customer satisfaction through administering a performance-based contract for hotline operators who deal directly with the public. Under this type of contract, we evaluate the performance and renew the contract only if the performance level meets or exceeds the standards set forth in the contract. This includes maintaining the hotline automated message system, maintaining the system for responding to e-mail messages, and preparing reports on consumer usage of these systems. In 2005, we received over 3,000 messages from the public through voicemail.

**Goal:** In 2007, Hotline staff will respond to voicemail messages the next business day 85 percent of the time.

#### **3. Incident Reports**

Consumers may make a complaint of an unsafe product or product-related injury through the hotline. We then send a copy of the report to the consumer for confirmation of the information recorded by the hotline staff. In 2005, hotline staff processed over 4,800 complaints about consumer products, and 100 percent were completed within 8 working hours. We use these complaints to look for emerging hazards and to support studies of specific product hazards.

**Goal:** Hotline staff will process product incident reports within 8 working hours 95 percent of the time.

### **National Injury Information Clearinghouse**

#### **4. Consumer Confirmation**

The Clearinghouse contacts consumers to request verification of information contained in reports of unsafe products submitted to us through our consumer hotline, the Internet, or by mail. Requests for verification are mailed to consumers within 48 hours after the report arrives in the Clearinghouse. In 2005, we sent nearly 13,000 reports to consumers for verification and 95 percent were completed within two business days.

**Goal:** Staff will mail incident report verification information to consumers within 2 business days 95 percent of the time.

### 5. *Manufacturer Mailing*

The incidents from consumers and investigation reports from CPSC's field staff are sent to manufacturers whose products are named in these reports. Consumer verification information and manufacturer responses are also made available to staff electronically for review. In 2005, we mailed over 12,000 reports to manufacturers and 95 percent were completed within 48 business days.

**Goal:** Staff will provide reported incidents and completed investigation results to manufacturers of identified products within 48 business days of receiving the reports in the Clearinghouse 90 percent of the time.

### 6. *Information Requests*

The Clearinghouse provides the public with technical information relating to the prevention of death and injury associated with consumer products. Requests for injury data are assigned to technical information specialists who search agency databases and publications to tailor responses to each customer's needs. Most of the 2,500 requests received on average each year are completed within five business days. In 2005, staff provided responses 99 percent of the time within 5 business days.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will provide responses to requests for information within 7 business days 95 percent of the time.

## **State Partners Program**

### 7. *Product Safety Activities*

CPSC's State Partners program works in cooperation with a group of state and local officials to deliver CPSC services to consumers. Most of these cooperative activities at the state level complement those performed by CPSC's field staff and are done at little or no cost to the Federal Government.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will conduct 174 product safety activities including media events, congressional contacts, public information seminars, and safety consultations.

### 8. *Assignments*

We will conduct at least 873 State Partner recall checks, inspections, and in-depth injury investigations to support CPSC priorities within 90 days of assignment.



## D. PRESIDENT'S MANAGEMENT AGENDA

### INTRODUCTION

The President envisions a government that has a citizen-based focus, is results-oriented, and is market-based. To improve the functioning of the Federal Government and to achieve efficiencies in its operations, the President has highlighted five government-wide management initiatives. They are: Strategic Management of Human Capital, Competitive Sourcing, Improved Financial Performance, Expanded Electronic Government, and Budget and Performance Integration. CPSC has taken a number of steps to support the management initiatives in the areas delineated in the President's Management Agenda, which allow us to achieve our goals while managing public resources with prudence.

### *Strategic Management of Human Capital*

Annual Goals Summary		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
1. Modify the appraisal system	Goal	**	**	1	1	1	1
	Actual	--	--	1	1		
2. Identify skill gaps and develop training plans	Goal	**	**	1	1	1	1
	Actual	--	--	0	0		
3. Maintain the recruitment process time	Goal	62	62	62	62	62	62
	Actual	61	51	60	61		
4. Conduct training for managers in human resource management	Goal	2	2	2	1	2	2
	Actual	2	2	3	2		
5. Conduct focus groups of new employees	Goal	2	2	2	2	1	1
	Actual	2		2	2		
6. Target recruitment efforts to organizations serving under-represented populations	Goal	10	10	10	12	12	12
	Actual	11	12	12	14		
7. Conduct training sessions in EEO/AEP responsibilities	Goal	3	3	3	3	3	3
	Actual	4	8	10	10		
8. Promote representation of Hispanics and individuals with disabilities	Goal	5	5	5	5	5	7
	Actual	6	7	12	13		
9. Identify and promote low/no-cost training	Goal	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Actual	1	1	1	1		

\*\*No goal established. --Data not available.

#### 1. *Appraisal System*

Staff revised CPSC's Senior Executive Service (SES) Performance Management System performance elements and standards in 2004 to include measures of success in meeting agency goals in our annual performance plans. In 2005, we

revised the elements and standards for the remainder of the employees. In 2006, we will monitor the use of the SES performance elements and standards and implement the modified elements and standards for the remainder of the employees.

**Goal:** In 2007, staff will then monitor the use of the performance elements and standards for the remainder of the employees.

## **2. Skills Analyses**

In 2004, we developed competencies for some of our mission critical positions. In 2006, we will identify skill gaps and develop training plans for the mission critical positions to assure we have well-qualified individuals performing the strategic mission of the agency.

**Goal:** In 2007, we will develop a succession plan to ensure continued development of current employees as well as targeted recruitment for mission critical positions.

## **3. Recruitment Time**

Staff maintained the recruitment process time, calculated as the difference in the number of days between the recruitment request and the candidate selection date, at an average of 61 days for 2005. This number is below the 1999 government average of 90 days and a reduction from our average process time of 72 days for 1999.

**Goal:** Staff will maintain the recruitment process time.

## **4. Human Resource Training**

**Goal:** Staff will conduct training for managers in human resource management. This would include topics such as recruitment, performance management, incentive programs, and other human resource procedures.

## **5. Focus Groups**

**Goal:** Staff will conduct 1 focus group of new employees to learn from their experience and determine how to improve our recruitment process.

## **6. Target Recruitment**

**Goal:** Staff will target 12 recruitment efforts to organizations serving under-represented populations. Contacts will be made to organizations serving under-represented populations such as Hispanic-serving institutions, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Outreach Leadership Alliance, League of United Latin American Citizens, and the President's Committee for People with Disabilities.

## **7. EEO/AEP Training**

**Goal:** Staff will conduct 3 training sessions for CPSC employees about their EEO/AEP responsibilities. Training

will continue to emphasize the shared responsibility for developing and implementing a successful CPSC Affirmative Employment Plan.

### 8. *Promote Representation*

**Goal:** Staff will promote representation of Hispanics and individuals with disabilities with at least 7 initiatives. Examples of these new initiatives are mentoring programs, summer volunteer program, employee training programs, and disability and diversity awareness programs.

### 9. *Low/No-Cost Training*

**Goal:** Staff will identify and promote no or low-cost training opportunities, such as periodic Small Agency Council training sessions.

## **Competitive Sourcing**

Annual Goals		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
10. Review and revise the annual Fair Act Inventory as appropriate	<b>Goal</b> <b>Actual</b>	** 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1
11. Complete performance work statements and cost statements for 20% of the activities in the Fair Act Inventory annually	<b>Goal</b> <b>Actual</b>	** 0%	** 0%	20% 0%	20% 0%	20% 0%	20% 0%
12. Complete competitions for activities in the Fair Act Inventory	<b>Goal</b> <b>Actual</b>	** --	** 0%	** 0%	20% 0%	20% 0%	20% 0%

\*\*No goal established. --Data not available.

### 10. *FAIR Act Inventories*

We have published an inventory as required by the *Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act (FAIR)* each year since 1999. We reviewed all positions in the agency. We find that the majority of CPSC employees are engaged in the governmental public safety function of investigating product hazards and developing product standards.

We currently contract for most of our commercial services. For example, CPSC contracts for mail and driver services, laborer services, and copy and library services. We also contract for our consumer hotline operation, data screening for NEISS, and much of our computer programming and help desk operations. A total of 43 FTEs are represented by these contractual services. In addition, we contract for specialized commercial reviews, such as bankruptcy experts, during the course of our investigations. We also contract out for operations of various major administrative systems such as payroll, finance, human resources, and procurement. We estimate that these contracts represent at least another 7 FTEs for an equivalent of 50 FTEs already contracted out.

In our 2005 inventory, we determined that an additional 17 employees over and above the 50 that are already contracted out may be performing commercial activities under the definitions in the FAIR Act and OMB Circular A-76 (Revised). In 2006 and 2007, we will review and revise the FAIR Act inventory, as appropriate.

### 11. *Performance Statements*

In 2006, we expect to complete agency procedures to implement OMB Circular A-76. Through 2007, we will complete performance work statements and cost statements for at least 20 percent of the activities in our FAIR Act inventory. Past work under this goal was deferred because of Commission reorganizations.

### 12. *Competition*

Through 2007, we will complete competitions for at least 20 percent of the activities in our FAIR Act inventory. The achievement of this goal may be deferred because the Commission reorganization being implemented in 2005/2006 affects the FAIR Act inventory incumbents.

## **Improved Financial Performance**

Annual Goals		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
13. Monitor financial management systems that meet Federal requirements and standards (Letter of Assurance)	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	1	1	1	1
	<b>Actual</b>	1	1	1	1		
14. Implement a data warehouse capability	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	1	1	1	1
	<b>Actual</b>	--	--	0	1		
15. Reduce or maintain the number of business days after month-end to produce monthly financial reports	<b>Goal</b>	**	**	3	3	3	3
	<b>Actual</b>	5	3	3	3		

\*\*No goal established. --Data not available.

### 13. *Financial Management Systems*

In 2001, CPSC implemented a new core accounting system, the Federal Financial System (FFS), contracted from the Department of Interior's National Business Center, a major provider of Federal accounting services meeting all Federal accounting system requirements and standards. FFS is fully compliant with requirements for accuracy and timeliness. In 2007, CPSC will continue to monitor the system to ensure continued compliance with all applicable Federal regulations and standards. This will be documented in staff annual letter of assurance.

### 14. *Data Warehouse Capability*

The Federal Financial System (FFS) described above was designed expressly for government accounting, integrated budget execution, and reporting. Key management data is readily accessible through on-line views and download capabilities. The data from FFS include information from

subsystems such as accounts payable, accounts receivable, and purchasing. However, accessing this data can be time-consuming and prone to error through manual processing, and does not allow for error classification and analysis.

Fortunately, this data is also optionally available in FFS in a data warehouse, providing information easily accessed with standard report and query tools. The FFS data warehouse provides reporting from summary to detail level. In 2004, this capability was pilot-tested by the accounting staff. In 2005, CPSC trained allowance holder staff in other CPSC offices. If funding for software license fees is secured, we will fully implement this warehouse capability in 2006 or 2007.

**15. Information Timeliness**

Currently, we provide monthly financial reports throughout the agency by the 3rd business day, on average, after the close of the month. In 2004, we pilot-tested electronic transmission of FFS reports with full implementation in 2005. This provides electronic on-demand access to financial information.

**Expanded Electronic Government**

Annual Goals		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
16. Develop Internet application allowing direct government-to-citizen access	Goal	**	**	1	1	1	1
	Actual	--	--	1	1		
17. Implement Web-based application to improve government-to-business communication	Goal	**	**	1	1	1	1
	Actual	--	--	1	1		
18. Develop and implement technology to improve access and transfer of information government-to-government	Goal	**	**	1	1	1	1
	Actual	--	--	1	1		
19. Reduce the weaknesses identified in the 2001 GISRA audit to improve internal efficiency and effectiveness	Goal	**	**	2	1	1	1
	Actual	2	5	2	3		

\*\*No goal established. --Data not available.

**16. Government-To-Citizen (G2C)**

Government-to-citizen initiatives seek to provide one-stop, on-line access by citizens to benefits and services. They also bring modern management tools to improve the quality and efficiency of service. Citizens can currently request technical, scientific, legal, program, and policy data from CPSC through the Freedom of Information Act. In 2005, we launched the On-Line FOIA request form for use by the public. In addition, we improved the public access to FOIA information on the Web site by implementing a new, easier-to-use FOIA information retrieval system. In 2006, we plan to begin working on a new feature for citizens who use our

Web site frequently to check on specific information. The new feature will allow visitors to our Web site to customize their view of our Web site so that they can get to the information they want quickly. In 2007, we plan on full implementation of this feature.

**17. *Government-To-Business (G2B)***

Government-to-business initiatives will reduce the burden on business by adopting processes that dramatically reduce redundant data collection, provide one-stop streamlined support for businesses, and enable digital communications with businesses. Currently businesses have difficulty finding applicable regulations and Federal Register notices on the Web site because of the large number of regulations and notices available. In 2004, we introduced a regulation retrieval system to allow visitors to retrieve regulatory information by specific products. In 2005, we developed and launched a new Voluntary Standards link on the [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) home page, making it easier for businesses to research and view Voluntary Standards activities involving consumer products. Under the CPSC Flammable Fabrics Act, some manufacturers elect to submit verification of their compliance with the regulation by mailing a paper form with the necessary information to CPSC. In 2006 and 2007, we plan to develop and introduce an on-line filing system for manufactures as an alternative.

**18. *Government-To-Government (G2G)***

Government to government initiatives will enable sharing and integration of federal, state, and local data. Recently completed CPSC initiatives include the [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov) Web site, a one-stop site that provides the most up-to-date information on recalls developed in partnership with the Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Coast Guard, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the Environmental Protection Agency. In 2005, we added a new section to [www.recalls.gov](http://www.recalls.gov), which allows the public to view all participating agencies' most recent recalls on one page rather than tabbing to the agencies individually, making recall information more readily accessible. In addition, we began working with the agencies to include an email subscription list further enhancing participating agencies' ability to disseminate important safety information. In 2006 and 2007, we will continue dialogue with participating agencies to find ways to improve this Web site.

### 19. *Internal Efficiency and Effectiveness (IEE)*

This initiative brings commercial best practices to key government operations, particularly information security, supply chain management, human capital management, financial management, and document workflow. The increase in computer viruses, hacker attempts, and potential physical threats put both internal and external CPSC interactions at risk and reduce government-to-employee efficiency and effectiveness. A successful E-Gov strategy must deploy effective security controls into government processes and systems. In 2004, we began implementation of our Business Continuity Plan (BCP), a requirement under the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA), which includes risk assessments on any new applications developed prior to their implementation. We have developed and launched several new internal applications and will complete risk assessments on at least one of the new applications in 2007.

### **Budget and Performance Integration**

Annual Goals		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
20. Perform program evaluations	<b>Goal</b>	7	8	7	8	6	6
	<b>Actual</b>	4	8	5	6		

### 20. *Program Evaluations*

To integrate performance review with budget decisions, we have taken a number of steps, including: (1) changing internal databases to capture performance by strategic goal; (2) developing a system for resource allocation by strategic goal for direct and indirect costs; (3) adding resource allocations (FTE, costs) for each strategic goal to the performance plan; and (4) combining the performance plan and budget request. In addition, we have realigned our budget programs to match our strategic goals. Finally, the Office of Financial Management, Planning and Evaluation work under the direction of the Office of the Executive Director to provide a comprehensive and cohesive integration of budget and performance. We believe that our annual budget and performance plans make the agency performance-oriented by showing progress achieved on our hazard reduction goals and our quality and management goals. For continued improvement, however, we must evaluate our programs. Therefore, we will continue to set goals for performing specific evaluations as indicated in the Performance Evaluation section of this plan.

## PROGRAM EVALUATIONS

**Program evaluations used to develop the Strategic Plan.** Strategic targets for the extent of injury and death reductions in each hazard area were based on statistical analyses of data and staff expertise. We calculated 10-year trends of injuries and deaths at both the product and hazard levels. Staff experts in each hazard area set specific targets after assessing the potential actions of the Commission and the effect of joint efforts with other organizations and industry. Staff also made assumptions concerning the outcomes of potential technical feasibility studies.

Customer service/satisfaction and human capital goals were based on information from surveys and tracking systems, as well as on staff expertise as to what could be accomplished in a given time span.

**Future program evaluations.** Injury and death reduction strategic goals will have two types of evaluations: yearly tracking of injuries and deaths at the hazard level and evaluations of injury and death reductions associated with specific products at appropriate time intervals. The timing for evaluating injury and death reductions depends, in part, on how long consumers keep specific products. Evaluations at the product level will be conducted when consumers are expected to have replaced a substantial proportion of older products with safer products. We derive estimates of the extent to which safer products have replaced older products using CPSC's Product-Life Model.

Customer service/customer satisfaction goals will also have two types of evaluations: (1) tracking of customer service standards and activities and (2) assessments of consumers and industry. Tracking will be evaluated annually, while assessments are planned to be implemented on a cycle of every three years. An overall plan for future evaluations is provided in Table A.

### A. Reducing Fire-Related Deaths

- 2002: Tracking of fireworks-related deaths
- 2003: Tracking of fire-related deaths
- 2003: Tracking of fireworks-related deaths
- 2004: Tracking of fire-related deaths
- 2004: Tracking of fireworks-related deaths
- 2005: Tracking of fire-related deaths
- 2005: Tracking of fireworks-related deaths
- 2006: Tracking of fire-related deaths
- 2006: Tracking of fireworks-related deaths
- 2006: Impact evaluation of product(s) with fire-related hazards
- 2007: Tracking of fire-related deaths
- 2007: Tracking of fireworks-related deaths

### B. Reducing CO Poisoning Deaths

- 2003: Tracking of CO deaths
- 2004: Program evaluation of CO poisoning deaths
- 2004: Tracking of CO deaths
- 2005: Program evaluation of CO poisoning deaths (Carryover from 2004)

2005: Tracking of CO deaths

2006: Tracking of CO deaths

2007: Tracking of CO deaths

**C. Assessments by Industry**

2004: Fast-Track, Ombudsman

2005: Ombudsman (Carryover from 2004)

2007: Fast-Track, Ombudsman

**D. Customer Satisfaction**

2002: Hotline, Clearinghouse, State Partners

2005: Web Site, Ombudsman

2006: Clearinghouse (Carryover from 2005), State Partners

2007: Hotline

**Table A**  
**Schedule of Evaluations**

Strategic Goals	Issues	General Scope	Procedures	
			Method	Time
<b>Hazards</b> Fire Carbon Monoxide	Reduce the rate of death	National estimates of deaths	1. Hazard Surveillance (NFIRS, NCHS)*  2. Evaluation of specific products – tracking before/after studies.	1. Annually  2. As appropriate
<b>Customer/Industry Services</b> Hotline Clearinghouse State Partners Web Site Ombudsman Fast Track	1. Timeliness standards met  2. Satisfaction with CPSC's services	1. Population of users  2. Random sample of users	1. Logs  2. Interviews; mail surveys	1. Annually  2. Every 3 years
<b>Critical Management</b> Utility Quality	1. Identify potential hazard reduction projects and/or strategic goals  2. Accuracy, security, and completeness of databases	1. Number of goals and projects  2. Selected in-house databases	1. Candidate goals, projects produced  2. Reduction in database errors, penetrations, etc.	1. Annually  2. As appropriate

\*National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS), National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).

## VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION

This section describes the means by which we will verify and validate the results of our annual performance measurement. Each annual goal was set by targeting or projecting a number of activities to be completed. We provide a complete list of performance measures with corresponding databases and verification procedures in Table C. We also provide further descriptions separately for: (A) reducing hazards to children and families for each of the core functions (safety standards, compliance, and consumer information); (B) identifying product hazards; and (C) service quality and customer satisfaction.

### A. Annual Goals for Reducing Hazards to Children and Families

#### 1. Safety Standards

- *Targeted performance goals for: (a) rulemaking activities, (b) recommendations sent to voluntary standards groups, and national or international code groups, (c) assessments completed (hazard analyses, data collection, technical feasibility studies), and (d) monitoring of voluntary standards revisions.*

Performance measures: The number of completed activities in each category.

Database: A milestone tracking systems record (including a quarterly voluntary standards tracking report), the completion dates for significant activities such as Commission briefings, recommendations sent to voluntary standards committees, and completed reports.

Verification: A review by senior managers and a formal clearance process, resulting in publicly available official, dated documents.

#### 2. Compliance

- *Estimated performance goals for recalls and corrective actions for unregulated products.*

Performance measures: The number of: recalls and corrective actions completed, business days to implement a recall, and business days for final approval of all notification actions for Fast-Track cases.

Database: The Compliance Corrective Actions (CCA) database tracks these performance measures.

Verification: Internal consistency checks, required fields, automatic generation of data reports, and reviews of each action by senior managers.

- *Projected performance goals: (1) violations and recalls for regulated products and (2) voluntary standard conformance by hazard area.*

Performance measures: The number of violative products identified, corrected, or recalled.

Database: CPSC's Integrated Field System (IFS) is used to track violations and recalls for regulated products and the monitoring of conformance to voluntary standards.

Verification: Internal consistency checks, required fields, automatic generation of data reports, and reviews of each action by senior managers.

### 3. Consumer Information

- *Projected performance goals for number of press releases and recall alerts by hazard area.*

Performance measures: The number of press releases and recall alerts for each hazard.

Database: The Press Release and Recall Alert database records all press releases and recall alerts issued by the Commission by hazard area. The press releases and recall alerts are placed on our Web site the day they are issued.

Verification: Check all press releases/recall alerts for written description of the hazard.

- *Performance goals for television appearances.*

Performance measures: The number of television appearances by hazard area.

Database: Information about television appearances is tracked in the tape media log file.

Verification: Check database information with tape inventory.

- *Performance goals for responding to the public's requests for publication through our Web site. [Note that each CPSC publication has been classified by the hazard addressed.]*

Performance measures: The number of Web publications in each hazard area.

Database: The Inventory of Web Publications database tracks the number of each publication viewed or downloaded.

Verification: This information is reported to us through an off-the-shelf software application, *Webtrends*. Perform monthly check of database information.

## B. Annual Goals for Identifying Product Hazards

### 1. Hazard Identification and Data Collection

- *Targeted performance goals for: (a) collecting data from NEISS hospitals, telephone and onsite investigations, medical examiners and coroners, and newsclips, and (b) evaluating, training and auditing NEISS hospitals.*

Performance measures: The number of completed activities or percent of hospitals visited in each.

Database: The NEISS, IPII (Injury or Potential Injury Incidents), INDP (In-depth Investigations), and NARS (NEISS Administrative Record System) databases track these performance measures.

Verification: Internal quality control process.

### **C. Annual Goals for Service Quality and Customer Satisfaction**

- *Performance goals for contacts with the public and timeliness of CPSC actions.*

Performance measure: The number of Web site contacts, hotline calls, and timeliness checks.

Verification: These performance measures are all stored electronically and are either automatically generated by contractors (Web and hotline) or automatically generated through our programming.

- *Performance goals for number of business days for technical review.*

Performance measures: The number of business days for CPSC to provide a technical response to small business callers.

Database: The number of business days is generated automatically in the Ombudsman database.

Verification: Manager review.

- *Performance goals for customer satisfaction and industry assessments.*

Performance measures: Percent of customers satisfied with our services; improvements made based on stakeholders' suggestions.

Verification: Standardized surveys and interviews based on census or sample of respondents.

**Table C**  
**Verification and Validation of Performance Measures for Annual Goals**

Type of Performance Measure	Performance Measure	Database	Verification/Validation
<b>Results-Oriented Goals</b>			
Candidates for Commission consideration	Number of Commission briefing packages	Milestone tracking	Official documents
Voluntary standards development or changes	Number of recommendations	Milestone tracking	Official documents
National codes changes	Number of recommendations	Milestone tracking	Official documents
Model legislation	Number of recommendations	Milestone tracking	Official documents
Hazard/cost analyses, data collection	Number of reports completed	Milestone tracking	Official documents
Technical feasibility studies	Number of reports completed	Milestone tracking	Official documents
Recalls or other corrective actions	Number of actions	IFS*, CCA *	Manager review
Voluntary standards (VS) monitored	Number of VS monitored	IFS*, official documents	Manager review
Public information efforts	Number of efforts	Milestone tracking	Official documents
Press releases /recall alerts	Number of releases/recall alerts	PRE*	Official documents
Television appearances	Number of TV appearances	Tape file log	Official document
Web publications	Number of hits/views	Inventory	WebTrends report
NEISS hospital data	Number of cases	NEISS	Office Quality Control Process
Medical Examiner/Newsclip reporting	Number of cases	IPII	Office Quality Control Process
Investigations	Number of cases	INDP	Office Quality Control Process
NEISS training	Percent of hospitals visited	NARS	Office Quality Control Process
<b>Service Quality</b>			
Web site	Number of contacts	Web server file log	Automated reports (Contractor)
Outreach to professional organizations	Number of contacts	Log of contacts	Manager review
Maintain hotline's capacity	Number of callers	Hotline operating system	Automated reports (Contractor)
Improve services	Number of services improved	Milestone tracking	Manager review
<b>Industry Services</b>			
Assess services	Responses of industry callers	Random sample/census	Procedural checks
Meet timeliness standards	Number of standards met	Log of actions	Automated reports
Track performance	Procedures completed	Milestone tracking	Manager review
<b>Consumer Satisfaction</b>			
Meet timeliness customer service standards	Number of standards met	Log of actions	Automated reports
Improve services	Number of services improved	Milestone tracking	Manager review
Survey consumer satisfaction	Ratings by consumers	Random sample	Procedural checks

\*IFS = Integrated Field System; CCA = Compliance Corrective Actions; PRE = Press Release database

## SOCIETAL COSTS ESTIMATION

The \$700 billion in societal costs is the total of three components: injury costs, costs of fatalities, and property damage. To estimate medically attended injuries, CPSC employs the Injury Cost Model (ICM), which uses empirically derived relationships between emergency department injuries reported through the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) and those treated in other settings (e.g. doctor's offices, clinics). The injury cost estimates are made up of four major components including medical costs, work losses, pain and suffering, and legal costs. The methods used to estimate these four broadly defined components are described in detail in the *Consumer Product Safety Commission's Revised Injury Cost Model*, Miller et. al., Public Services Research Institute, Calverton, MD, December 2000.

The cost of fatalities is estimated by applying a statistical value of life to the number of deaths. CPSC staff's statistical value of life is consistent with the results of research employing the "willingness to pay" methodology. In the December 1993 *Journal of Economic Literature* Kip Viscusi's review of the literature in "The Value of Risks to Life and Health" concludes that "most of the reasonable estimates of life are clustered in the \$3 million - \$7 million range." CPSC staff uses a \$5 million cost of fatalities.

The estimate for property damage (\$5.32 billion in 2002) comes from data on residential fires collected by the National Fire Protection Association in an annual survey. The property damage estimate does not include costs associated with fires that are not reported to a fire department or goods destroyed or damaged when an incident other than fire occurs. The \$700 billion figure does not include the costs of illnesses and deaths resulting from chemical or bacterial exposure from use of consumer products.

## **PROCESSES AND TECHNOLOGIES NEEDED TO MEET THE PERFORMANCE GOALS**

This section reviews the (A) processes, (B) technologies (capital assets), (C) treatment of major management problems, (D) accountability, and (E) methodology for allocating CPSC's budget request to strategic goal activities in the annual performance plan.

### **A. Processes**

We plan to achieve our annual goals by continuing our current operational processes. These are described more fully under the introduction to each budget program and activity. In summary, our processes involve these hazard reduction activities:

- Development of voluntary or mandatory product safety standards and guidelines,
- Application of voluntary or mandatory corrective actions, including product recalls, and
- Distribution of information to the public on how to avoid product hazards.

These activities are supported by our work in the area of hazard identification and analysis.

### **B. Capital Assets / Capital Programming**

We have two major recurring capital asset acquisitions in support of our performance goals – continued investment in information technology (IT) and the modernization of our laboratory. Our investments in IT and laboratory modernization have a direct impact on our ability to achieve our mission and strategic goals.

We use IT to speed access to injury and death information to set priorities for using our resources; support various voluntary and mandatory approaches to reducing hazards; and reduce more quickly hazards to American consumers. In addition, automating various tracking, planning, and mission-critical systems needed to accomplish organizational tasks has saved thousands of administrative staff hours, thus expanding staff time devoted to injury reduction activities. This has benefited the various CPSC programs established to carry out the agency's mission.

The laboratory provides critical support to our compliance investigations and development of safety standards. GSA studies have shown that simply maintaining the existing 1950s era facility is not cost effective. Over the past several years, we have worked with GSA, to develop a concept plan that has been approved by CPSC, GSA and the National Capital Planning Commission. GSA is now assessing the total cost of the project and developing a request for possible GSA funding of the construction costs using GSA's Public Building Fund. If GSA is successful in securing funding, the modernization would take several years to complete.

### **C. Treatment of Major Management Problems and High-Risk Areas**

In 2001, as a result of the first annual audit conducted in response to the Government Information Security Act, we determined that we had a weakness in our internal controls over automated information security and its operation. We hired a full-time IT security official and addressed all major weaknesses by the end of 2004.

We do not have any major problems of fraud and mismanagement in our programs and operations. We can address problems of fraud and mismanagement in programs and operations, if they were to arise, through CPSC's: (1) Office of Inspector General, responsible for audits, inspections, special reports, and investigations; (2) the Office of the Chairman, responsible for the annual Federal Financial Managers Improvement Act (FFMIA) report to the President and Congress; and (3) the Senior Management Council, responsible for internal control reviews and annual letters of assurance.

We produced audited 2005 financial statements (reported in our 2005 Performance and Accountability Report, November 2005). CPSC's statements received a "clean opinion." These statements met the *accelerated* Federal schedule of 45 days after the close of the fiscal year. The audit found that CPSC's statements and financial system conformed to accepted accounting principles, laws, and regulations and that CPSC had effective internal controls.

### **D. Accountability**

The agency's budget review process, annual performance report, and staff performance appraisals are the primary methods for assigning accountability to managers and staff for achievement of objectives. Each year during the budget and operating plan process, we will link the Strategic Plan and the Performance Budget. The Executive Director of the agency and the directors for the Offices of Hazard Identification and Reduction (for Safety Standards), Compliance (for Recalls and Corrective Actions), and Information and Public Affairs (for Consumer Information) are responsible for this linkage. Finally, the Commission stresses the achievement of the Strategic Plan's objectives as an important consideration in the performance appraisals of agency managers. In addition, the agency's Inspector General conducts an annual audit program of various aspects of agency operations, including auditing portions of the performance plans.

### **E. Resource Allocation to Accomplish Annual Goals**

For 2007, the funding request for the agency is \$62,370,000 with a staff level of 420 full time equivalents (FTEs) nationwide. All of the annual goals outlined in this document assume that the \$62,370,000 or equivalent purchasing power will be available for 2007. We may need to adjust the annual goals to reflect the actual level of funding and staff made available to the agency, particularly if our current service funding needs are not met. We may also have to adjust goals as we learn more about the impact of our FTE reductions in successive years (2006 and 2007) on our ability to properly match staff skill mix with planned projects.

About 90 percent of our resources are allocated to professional and technical staff who identify product-related hazards; investigate and act on product safety hazards and violations of safety regulations; provide recommendations to CPSC for decision-making; and inform the public about product safety. After staff costs, about 10 percent of our annual budget is available for other critical support costs, such as injury data collection, in-depth investigations of deaths and injuries, independent expert technical evaluations, and travel in support of investigations and voluntary standards development. Our challenge is to work within these constraints while maintaining enough flexibility to fulfill our mission of protecting the public.

**Allocation Methodology.** Resources in the Annual Performance Plan are allocated between our two budget programs, “Reducing Product Hazards to Children and Families,” and “Identifying Product Hazards.” These budget programs include activities that support the strategic goals and reflect both direct and indirect costs. We estimated the resource allocation for each strategic goal by:

- Determining the direct costs for each strategic goal for those activities classified by hazard in the budget (e.g., resources for the upholstered furniture project were directly applied to the goal for reducing fire-related deaths). Most of the agency’s costs are direct costs, such as salary and contract support costs.
- Estimating direct costs for those strategic goal activities not classified by hazard in the budget, such as customer and industry service activities. Staff estimated the distribution attributable to the strategic goals using historical data and expert judgment.
- Distributing proportionately indirect costs, such as administration, space rent, etc., to the strategic goals for each program.



**PROGRAM AND FINANCING SCHEDULE (dollars in thousands)**

	<b>2005 Actual</b>	<b>2006 Plan</b>	<b>2007 Request</b>
<b>Obligations by program activity:</b>			
Direct program:			
Reducing Product Hazards to Children and Families .....	\$49,523	\$49,905	\$49,483
Identifying Product Hazards .....	12,561	12,465	12,887
Total direct program.....	62,084	62,370	62,370
Reimbursable program .....	2,770	3,000	3,000
Total new obligations .....	64,854	65,370	65,370
<b>Budgetary resources available for obligation:</b>			
New budget authority (gross) .....	62,149	62,370	62,370
Total new obligations .....	-62,084	-62,370	-62,370
Unobligated balance expiring.....	-65	--	--
<b>New budget authority (gross), detail:</b>			
Discretionary:			
Appropriation (definite).....	62,650	63,000	62,370
Reduction pursuant to P.L. 108-447.....	-501	--	--
Reduction pursuant to P.L. 109-148.....	--	-630	--
Appropriation (total discretionary) .....	62,149	62,370	62,370
Discretionary: Spending authority from offsetting collections:			
Offsetting collections (cash).....	2,770	3,000	3,000
Total new budget authority (gross).....	64,919	65,370	65,370
<b>Change in unpaid obligations:</b>			
Unpaid obligations, start of year:			
Obligated balance, start of year .....	8,056	8,062	8,482
Total new obligations .....	64,854	65,370	65,370
Total outlays (gross).....	-64,525	-64,950	-65,355
Adjustments in expired accounts .....	-323	--	--
Unpaid obligations, end of year:			
Obligated balance, end of year .....	8,062	8,482	8,497
<b>Outlays (gross), detail:</b>			
Outlays from new discretionary authority .....	57,503	58,500	58,179
Outlays from discretionary balances.....	7,022	6,450	7,042
Total outlays (gross) .....	64,525	64,950	65,221
<b>Offsets:</b>			
Against gross budget authority and outlays:			
Offsetting collections (cash) from Federal sources.....	2,755	2,980	2,980
Offsetting collections (cash) from Non-Federal sources.....	15	20	20
Total offsetting collections (cash) .....	2,770	3,000	3,000
<b>Net budget authority and outlays:</b>			
Budget authority (net) .....	\$62,149	\$62,370	\$62,370
Outlays (net).....	\$60,755	\$61,950	\$62,221

**OBJECT CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE (dollars in thousands)**

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
	<b><u>Actual</u></b>	<b><u>Plan</u></b>	<b><u>Request</u></b>
<b>Direct obligations:</b>			
Personnel compensation:			
11.1	\$35,603	\$36,467	\$36,467
11.3	2,335	2,700	2,700
11.5	283	300	300
11.8	--	--	--
11.9	<u>38,221</u>	<u>39,467</u>	<u>39,467</u>
Personnel benefits:			
12.1	8,938	9,501	9,501
13.0	635	10	10
	<u>47,794</u>	<u>48,978</u>	<u>48,978</u>
21.0	800	839	839
22.0	62	85	85
23.1	4,768	4,721	4,753
23.2	2	1	1
23.3	642	672	672
24.0	322	301	301
25.1	205	200	200
25.2	3,148	3,500	3,400
25.3	1,002	1,064	1,064
25.4	327	324	324
25.7	621	650	718
26.0	626	456	456
31.0	1,765	575	575
42.0	0	4	4
99.0	<u>62,084</u>	<u>62,370</u>	<u>62,370</u>
<b>Reimbursable obligations:</b>			
11.1	--	--	--
12.1	--	--	--
21.0	59	100	100
25.0	2,711	2,900	2,900
	<u>2,770</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
99.9	<u>\$64,854</u>	<u>\$65,370</u>	<u>\$65,370</u>

**PERSONNEL SUMMARY****Direct:**

Total compensable work years:

Full-time equivalent employment .....	447	440	420
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## VOLUNTARY AND MANDATORY STANDARDS SUMMARY

	<b><u>2005</u></b> <b><u>Actual</u></b>	<b><u>2006</u></b> <b><u>Plan</u></b>	<b><u>2007</u></b> <b><u>Request*</u></b>
<b>VOLUNTARY STANDARDS UNDER DEVELOPMENT:</b>			
Fire/Electrocution Hazards .....	18	13	16
Children’s Hazards.....	32	32	32
Chemical Hazards .....	5	8	7
Household/Recreation Hazards.....	<u>19</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>
Total Voluntary Standards .....	74	66	67

### MANDATORY STANDARDS UNDER DEVELOPMENT:

Fire/Electrocution Hazards .....	1	7	7
Children’s Hazards.....	0	3	0
Chemical Hazards .....	1	0	0
Household/Recreation Hazards.....	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Total Mandatory Standards .....	2	11	8

\*It is anticipated that these numbers will change to reflect activities changed during the operating plan period.

## PROGRAM ASSESSMENT RATING TOOL (PART) SUMMARY

**Program:** Consumer Product Safety Commission

**Rating:** Results Not Demonstrated

**Program Type:** Regulatory -based

**Assessment Year:** 2002 (2005 Update)

Key Performance Measures	Year	Target	Actual
Long-term (Outcome) Measure: The rate of death in the U.S. from fire related causes (measured per million people)	1998	7.7	9.5
	1999	7.7	9.3
	2000	7.7	9.1
	2001	7.7	8.8
	2007	7.7	
Long-term (Outcome) Measure: The rate of death in the U.S. from carbon monoxide poisoning (measured per 10 million people)	1999	3.5	5.1
	2000	3.5	4.5
	2001	3.5	5.3
	2007	3.5	
Annual (Efficiency) Measure: Recalls initiated within 20 days under the Fast Track Product Recall Program	2002	90%	95%
	2003	90%	95%
	2004	95%	96%
	2005	95%	94%
	2007	90%	

Note: The "actual" figures have been updated to reflect methodology change; we will now measure death rates based on 3-year moving averages.

Recommended Follow-up Actions	Status
Develop more ambitious long-term strategic goals.	Completed
Review the conduct of cost-benefit analyses on PPPA regulations to ensure that these regulations are conducted in a more comprehensive, consistent and thorough manner, and propose legislative change when appropriate.	Action taken, but not completed
Develop a plan to systematically review its current regulations to ensure consistency among all regulations in accomplishing program goals.	Completed

### Discussion:

CPSC revised its Strategic Plan and set more ambitious goals for long term and annual measures, including reducing fire-related deaths by 20 percent by 2013 and maintaining the number of recalls initiated within 20 days under the Fast Track program at 90 percent. CPSC staff is conducting pilot cost - benefit analyses on possible Poison Prevention Packaging Act (PPPA) regulations and has implemented a more systematic review of regulations.

Program Funding Level (in millions of dollars)		
2005 Actual	2006 Plan	2007 Request
62	62	62

## PART RECOMMENDATIONS AND STATUS

PART Recommendation 1			
Recommendation 1:	Completed Date:	On Track?	Comments on Status
Develop more ambitious long-term goals	9/30/03	Completed	Strategic Plan developed with ambitious goals

**OMB Recommendation:** *"Develop more ambitious long-term strategic goals. (CPSC is now revising its strategic plan and setting new targets.)"*

**Background.** Under our first Strategic Plan in 1997, CPSC set 10-year strategic goals to reduce fire-related deaths, electrocutions, and carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning deaths, as well as other hazards. Targets for reductions were based on 1994 or 1995 data, the latest years for which data was available in 1997. By 2000, we exceeded the targets for these three hazard reduction strategic goals. The Agency, however, chose not to adjust targets for the strategic goals because there were major changes in the way injury and death data were collected or classified and staff believed new baseline data was needed.

**Progress.** Our new Strategic Plan was adopted at the start of 2004. In this plan we set ambitious strategic goals. Staff experts met in hazard teams and developed goal candidates based on selection criteria that included the frequency and severity of product-related injuries, the addressability of the hazard, and the vulnerability of the population at risk. Staff recommended targets for each goal candidate based on their knowledge of the hazard, products likely to be targeted for injury reduction, and the extent to which remedial action could address the hazard.

This process resulted in three hazard reduction strategic goals: reducing fire-related deaths, reducing carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning deaths and preventing child drownings. Strategic goals for fire and CO poisonings are carry-over goals from the first Strategic Plan. We *changed* the target for reducing fire-related deaths to 20 percent from 1998 to 2013 from the previous goal of 10 percent from 1995 to 2005. We retained the target of 20 percent for reducing CO poisonings because new data shows that the total number of deaths is smaller (180 in 1998 and an average of 124 deaths for 1999-2000) and given this smaller universe of deaths, we believe a 20 percent reduction is an ambitious target. We had also established a goal to reduce child drownings. Resource reductions, however, have forced us to drop this work as a strategic goal. We will continue work in this area on a project level.

In the 2007 budget, we are using three year moving averages to track progress on our strategic goals. This is being done to mitigate year-to-year fluctuations.

PART Recommendation 2			
Recommendation 2:	Completion Date:	On Track?	Comments on Status:
Review the conduct of formal cost-benefit analyses on PPPA regulations		Y	Draft cost-benefit analyses completed
Next Milestone:	Next Milestone Date:	Lead Org:	Lead Official:
Assess pilot study	9/30/06	Hazard Identification and Reduction	Assistant Executive Director

**OMB Recommendation:** *"Review the conduct of cost-benefit analyses on PPPA regulations to ensure that these regulations are conducted in a more comprehensive, consistent, and thorough manner, and propose legislative change when appropriate."*

**Background.** CPSC conducts formal cost-benefit analyses for all of its substantive regulations except for Poison Prevention Packaging Act (PPPA) regulations and regulations directed by Congress that waive the statutory requirements for cost-benefit analysis. The PPPA does not explicitly require the Commission to compare the costs and benefits of a rule, nor is it explicitly precluded. In the past, the Commission made decisions on rules based on several considerations in the Act (see PPPA sec 3, 15 U.S.C. § 1472) including the reasonableness of the proposed rule. Staff has not performed formal cost-benefit analyses of the type that are developed for products regulated under the Federal Hazardous Substances Act, Consumer Product Safety Act or Flammable Fabrics Act.

**Progress.** To address OMB's recommendation and explore legal requirements, staff prepared draft cost-benefit analyses for two potential PPPA rulemaking candidates. Once these candidates are finalized, we plan to assess the pilot study.

Conducting a pilot is important. Because formal cost benefit analysis has not been performed in PPPA projects in the past, staff needs to evaluate the adequacy of existing data sources and determine what additional resources may be needed. After the pilot is completed, staff will provide recommendations for consideration by the Commission. The Commission will decide whether to use cost-benefit analysis as information for decision-making, require it for its decisions, or consider other alternatives as appropriate.

PART Recommendation 3			
Recommendation 3:	Completion Date:	On Track?	Comments on Status:
Develop a plan to systematically review its current regulations	06/01/05	Completed	Systematic plan for review of rules developed

**OMB Recommendation:** *"Develop a plan to systematically review its current regulations to ensure consistency among all regulations in accomplishing program goals."*

**Background.** In the detailed section of its PART analysis, OMB agreed that we systematically review our current regulations but recommended that a more formal procedure be established. In the past, CPSC used a number of different methods to review mandatory and voluntary standards to assure that they are necessary. During the course of these reviews, if staff found evidence that supported the need to revise a specific regulation, staff initiated action. For example, a detailed review of the Commission's regulation on the flammability of clothing textiles showed that the procedures and test equipment specified in the standard was outdated. These outdated procedures resulted in confusion by industry and other affected parties in how to apply the standard's requirements. As a result of the review, staff sent a briefing package to the Commission that recommended the publication of an advance notice of proposed rulemaking to update the standard to reflect current technologies and practices.

**Progress.** We formed a task force comprised of staff from the Office of the General Counsel, Directorate for Economic Analysis, Office of Compliance, Division of Planning, Budget and Evaluation and the Office of the Inspector General with the goal of implementing a more formal systematic review. The task force updated CPSC's inventory of rules and further refined the inventory by identifying those rules that staff considered substantive. This refined inventory was then used to select the rules for systematic review in the pilot study.

For the second phase of the project, the task force directed staff to conduct a pilot study to review one rule from each statute (with the exception of the Refrigerator Safety Act). The pilot package addressing the four rules reviewed in the pilot study was completed and sent to the Commission. Subject to the availability of personnel and fiscal resources and the priority of other needs for Commission action, the results of the pilot program are being applied to implement a systematic review process for the remainder of CPSC's substantive regulations. The systematic review is now being implemented. For 2005, five rules were reviewed.

**U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207**