



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

2006 PERFORMANCE BUDGET (OPERATING PLAN)

Saving Lives and Keeping Families Safe

February 2006

U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION 2006 PERFORMANCE BUDGET

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TABLE 1
2004 TO 2006 RESOURCES BY PROGRAM AND ACTIVITY
(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

	<u>2004 Actual</u>		<u>2005 Actual</u>		<u>2006 Plan</u>	
	<u>FTEs</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTEs</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTEs</u>	<u>Amount</u>
REDUCING PRODUCT HAZARDS TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:						
Reducing Fire and Electrocutation Hazards	<u>174</u>	<u>\$22,101</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>\$24,227</u>	<u>166</u>	<u>\$23,193</u>
Fire Deaths*	154	19,473	153	21,907	148	20,763
Electrocution Hazards	20	2,628	17	2,320	18	2,430
Reducing Children's Hazards	<u>88</u>	<u>11,456</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>10,975</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>10,638</u>
Reducing Poisonings and Other Chemical Hazards	<u>61</u>	<u>8,190</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>7,419</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>7,465</u>
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning*	12	1,629	10	1,473	14	2,165
Child Poisonings/Other Chemical Hazards.....	49	6,561	40	5,946	38	5,300
Reducing Household and Recreation Hazards	<u>53</u>	<u>6,722</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>\$6,902</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>8,609</u>
Subtotal	<u>376</u>	<u>\$48,469</u>	<u>349</u>	<u>\$49,523</u>	<u>355</u>	<u>\$49,905</u>
IDENTIFYING PRODUCT HAZARDS:						
Data Collection	67	\$9,353	85	\$10,600	74	\$11,009
Emerging Hazards/Data Utility*	<u>18</u>	<u>1,782</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>1,961</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>1,456</u>
Subtotal	<u>85</u>	<u>\$11,135</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>\$12,561</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>\$12,465</u>
TOTAL COMMISSION	<u>461</u>	<u>\$59,604</u>	<u>447</u>	<u>\$62,084</u>	<u>440</u>	<u>\$62,370</u>

* These are strategic goals.

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, staff 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).

HAZARDS	2004 Actual		2005 Actual		2006 Plan	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Fire and Electrocution	174	\$22,101	170	\$24,227	166	\$23,193
Children	88	11,456	78	10,975	78	10,638
Chemical	61	8,190	50	7,419	52	7,465
Household and Recreation	53	6,722	51	6,902	59	8,609
TOTAL	376	\$48,469	349	\$49,523	355	\$49,905

HOW WE REDUCE HAZARDS

The Commission uses a number of strategies to reduce the risks of hazardous consumer products. These strategies include (1) participating in the voluntary standards process and 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. In addition, the agency bases its actions to reduce the risks posed by of 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.

We participate 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. Upon acceptance of our recommendations, the organizations complete technical work to support the requirements, publish a proposal for public comment, and publish a standard. We participate 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 saw a new record of almost 100 more reports of potential product hazards than last year's record. This is due primarily to a new Retailer Reporting Model being tested with a large, nationwide retailer. The retailer is providing customer complaints and other incident reports to CPSC on a weekly basis.

During 2005, we obtained the largest 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 these 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, on the average, 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 guides 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 and 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 *Resale Roundup*. Through the *Neighborhood Safety Network*, we strengthened 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 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, an innovative “one-stop shop” for all federal product recalls, in partnership with five other Federal health and safety regulatory agencies. This new Web site is an easy-to-use portal to all federal agencies that have the authority to conduct safety recalls. In 2005, we had 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 PROGRAMS 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 hazard 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 annual performance goals.

For activities that address unforeseen safety issues, such as recalls, corrective actions, and news releases, annual goals are more appropriately characterized as estimates. Staff set numerical estimates for these types of activities based on a review of five years of historical data. However, the actual number of recalls, corrective actions, and news releases responding to unpredictable events in a given year will 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 2006, we reduced resource levels on a prorated basis and annual performance targets by 5 percent to reflect resource reductions, where appropriate.

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 hazard program, and resources are allocated accordingly.

HAZARDS	2004 Actual		2005 Actual		2006 Plan	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Fire	154	\$19,473	153	\$21,907	148	\$20,763
Electrocution	20	2,628	17	2,320	18	2,430
TOTAL	174	\$22,101	170	\$24,227	166	\$23,193



KEEPING FAMILIES SAFE FROM FIRE HAZARDS

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

THE HAZARD

This nation's fire death rate remains high. In 2002¹, 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 of the population. In 2002, residential fires resulted in over 600 deaths to adults 65 years and older.

¹2002 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.

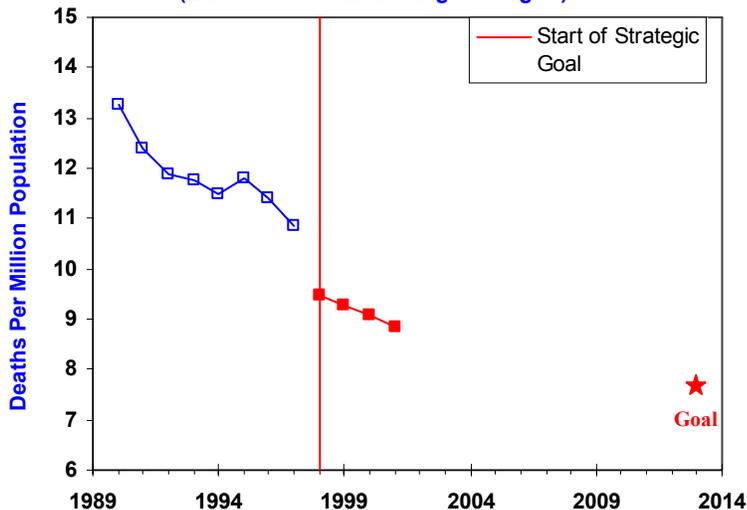
Products most often ignited in fatal fires are upholstered furniture, mattresses, and bedding. In recent years, these product categories were associated with about one-third of fire deaths. Cooking equipment is often involved as a source of ignition in fire deaths, accounting for about 10 percent of 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.²

Fire-Related Death Rate Associated with Consumer Products by Year
(Based on 3-Year Moving Averages)



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.

²A new revision of the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), the nationwide system for coding information about fires, went into effect in 1999.

2006 ANNUAL FIRE-RELATED GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Safety Standards							
1. Prepare candidates for rulemaking	Goal	2	3	3	3	4	5
	Actual	2	3	2	3	1	
2. Present recommendations to voluntary standards or code organizations	Goal	6	3	3	3	0	1
	Actual	4	4	3	2	0	
3. Complete data analysis and technical review activities	Goal	13	14	12	10	14	12
	Actual	8	12	7	5	10	
4. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards and code revisions	Goal	*	*	17	14	13	11
	Actual	15	15	17	14	17	
Compliance							
5. Pursue for recall or other corrective action	Goal	505	505	350 ^a	270 ^a	315 ^a	326 ^a
	Actual	614	371	275	387	345	
6. Monitor existing voluntary standards	Goal	2	1	1	0 ^a	0 ^a	1 ^a
	Actual	1	1	2	0	0	
7. Conduct port-of-entry surveillance	Goal	2	2	2 ^a	2 ^a	1 ^a	1 ^a
	Actual	3	3	3	2	2	
Consumer Information							
8. Conduct public information efforts/partnerships	Goal	6	7	7	5	6	7
	Actual	6	7	7	5	5	
9. Issue press releases and recall alerts	Goal	45	45 ^b	45 ^b	60 ^{b,c}	60 ^{b,c}	113 ^{bc}
	Actual	53	88	72	100	131	
10. Provide television interviews and appearances	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	13
	Actual	--	--	--	18	14	
11. Inform consumers through electronic publications on our Web site (in thousands)	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	340
	Actual	--	--	--	411	391	

*No goal established.

--Data not available.

^a 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.

^bThese goals were changed to include all product hazards not just recalled products as in previous years.

^cThis goal now includes recall alerts.

1. Prepare for Commission consideration 5 candidates for rulemaking or other alternatives.

Carpet and Rug Standards Amendments

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

During the years 1999-2000, there were 6,500 fires and \$122.0 million in property loss annually from residential fires involving floor coverings. The standards for the flammability of carpets and rugs were adopted to eliminate the unreasonable risk of death and injury from fires spread by carpets and rugs ignited by a small ignition source (match, burning ember, etc.). The test method requires the use of a methenamine tablet or an equal tablet as the ignition source for the carpet tests. In 2002 the manufacturer ceased production of its product.

The standards need to be amended to specify the appropriate characteristics without reference to a specific brand name product. In 2004, staff completed the characterization of alternative methenamine tablets and determined appropriate specifications. In 2005, staff prepared a draft briefing package with recommended product specification amendments for Commission consideration. Other possible amendments will be identified if warranted.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete a briefing package with recommended product specification amendments for Commission consideration. This would be a technical amendment requiring only a 2-step rulemaking. In 2006, if the Commission publishes an NPR, staff will address public comments and draft final amendments for the carpet and rug standards for Commission consideration.

Cigarette Lighters

2 deaths (1994-1999 annual average)
990 injuries (1997-2002 annual average)

Mechanical malfunctions of cigarette lighters result in an annual average of 2 deaths (between 1994-1999), 990 injuries (between 1997-2002), and \$38 million in societal costs. The staff is developing a possible rule to address the hazard of cigarette lighter mechanical malfunctions. In 2005, the Commission issued an ANPR to begin development of a new mandatory safety standard for cigarette lighters.

Goal: In 2006, staff will analyze lighter malfunction hazard data and assess the level of conformance to the voluntary standard and respond to ANPR comments. Staff will send a briefing package to the Commission for consideration as to whether to proceed with rulemaking.

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 due to the use of highly flammable textiles in clothing. Several aspects of the existing standard require test procedure clarifications or are out of date due to changes in test equipment, consumer practice, environmental law, and textile product cleaning techniques. Updating the general textile standard is complex, requiring development of a new dry cleaning test procedure, and clarification of existing test procedures and methods for interpreting results. An ANPR was published in late 2002. In 2003, staff reviewed the ANPR comments and developed a plan to prepare a proposed standard. From 2004 and into 2005, staff prepared recommendations for amendments to the standard.

Goal: In 2006, staff will send a briefing package to the Commission with recommended amendments for Commission consideration.

Mattresses - Open Flame Ignition

440 deaths
2,160 injuries
(1995-1999 annual average addressable)

Mattresses and bedding materials were the first item to ignite in 20,100 fires annually during 1995-1999. The losses associated with these fires could potentially be addressed by an open-flame standard for mattresses and bedclothes. Small open-flame ignition sources, such as lighters, matches and candles, caused most deaths to children under age 15 (both victims and fire starters).

This project focuses on the development of a new mandatory standard to address open flame ignition of mattresses. Industry-sponsored research at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) defined the open-flame hazard and designed an appropriate full-scale test method, now incorporated in California Technical Bulletin 603, and the CPSC proposed rule.

In 2002, the Commission published an ANPR to develop a mandatory standard to reduce the severity of mattress fires and make mattresses less flammable. In 2003 and 2004, staff analyzed the ANPR comments. In 2004, staff prepared an NPR briefing package including a draft proposed standard for mattresses. The Commission published an NPR for mattress flammability in 2005. The staff evaluated public comments on the NPR and began preparing a briefing package for a final mattress standard.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete the briefing package with the draft final rule for Commission consideration.

Upholstered Furniture

360 deaths
740 injuries
\$133 million 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 possible rule 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 2004, the Commission published an ANPR expanding the agency's rulemaking proceeding to cover cigarette ignition as well as small open flame ignition risks. In 2005, staff issued a revised draft standard, evaluated public comments, and began preparing a regulatory options package on a possible proposed rule.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete testing and technical analyses to support the staff's draft standard, and present an options package to the Commission for consideration.

Depending on Commission action, staff may also: analyze public comments on an NPR and being preparation of a draft final rule and alternatives for Commission consideration; continue to work with the California Bureau of Home Furnishings and industry/voluntary standards groups; and work with EPA on issues related to possible rulemaking.

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

Emergency Escape Masks (Carryover from 2003)

Emergency escape masks are products marketed as a safety device to protect users against deadly toxic smoke while evacuating a fire, chemical or other emergency in the home and other locations. These products have the potential to reduce deaths and injuries by providing more escape time and protecting people from toxic gases during fires. Currently, there are no performance standards for these products.

In 2004, staff began work to examine consumer safety issues associated with these products and staff attended standards development activities on masks intended to protect against chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear hazards. Through an Interagency Agreement with CPSC, the U.S. Fire Administration provided funding at the end of 2004 to conduct testing of escape masks. In 2005, staff continued to evaluate the effectiveness of escape masks by conducting testing and evaluating the human factors issues associated with these products.

Goal: The original goal for 2004, to make recommendations to strengthen the voluntary standard as appropriate, will be completed in 2006.

3. Complete 12 data analysis, collection and technical review activities.

Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters (Carryover from 2005)

10 deaths
40 injuries (1998)

A new provision in the 2005 National Electrical Code (that becomes effective January 1, 2008) will require advanced, more sensitive AFCIs for use in homes. In 2005, staff monitored units in the field and supported revisions to the voluntary standard. A draft report was posted for public comment.

Goal: A draft staff report, *Considerations for Installation of Smoke Alarms on Residential Branch Circuits*, which

addressed installation of smoke alarms on AFCI-protected circuits, was posted for public comment on our Web site in 2005 and will be finalized in 2006. The staff will evaluate new devices for efficacy and nuisance tripping when they become available.

Bedclothes -Open Flame Ignition

350 deaths
1,750 injuries
\$295.0 in property loss
(1999-200 annual average)

This project focuses on the possible development of new mandatory requirements for bedclothes that will ensure improved flammability performance. Research conducted at NIST showed that bedclothes are a major contributor to mattress ignition and demonstrated that improved flammability performance of some bedclothes can reduce the fire hazard. California is developing a test method for filled bedding items in preparation to beginning rulemaking in 2006.

Some of the comments received on the mattress ANPR in 2003 and 2004 suggest the need for an additional standard for bedclothes. In 2004, staff prepared options for bedclothes (including an ANPR). In 2005, the Commission published an ANPR to address bedclothes flammability. The staff will evaluate public comments on the notice and begin development of a draft standard for bedclothes.

Goal: In 2006, staff will participate in a test method study being conducted by the California Bureau of Home Furnishings. Staff will prepare a status report on its work related to bedclothes.

Duplex Electrical Receptacles

10 deaths
50 injuries
(1999)

In 1999, receptacles were associated with an estimated 3,300 fires resulting in \$60.6 million in property losses. In the late 1980s, test work conducted by a CPSC contractor and CPSC staff investigated the performance of push-in type connections in receptacles. These connections rely on a flat metal "spring" to hold an inserted conductor in place, and could degrade over time, resulting in overheated terminals that may lead to fire. The studies recommended against the use of push-in terminals. In January 1995, the UL standard for receptacles was revised and incorporated some of the staff proposed changes.

In 2004-2005, staff enrolled fire departments in a systematic effort to collect information regarding the types of receptacle terminations (back-wire push-in, back-wire clamp, or wire-binding screw) involved in fire incidents and to collect receptacles involved in those fires. Data collection will continue through 2005.

Goal: In 2006, incident samples and data will be analyzed to determine the causes of failure, and staff will complete a report of the findings. New information gained by this analysis and examination and comparison of new receptacle technology will be used to develop and support further changes to the voluntary standard for receptacles in 2007, as warranted.

*Electrical Lighting Products
(Carryover from 2004)*

10 deaths
150 injuries
(1999)

In 2004, staff completed a two-year data collection effort associated with lighting equipment. A report on the staff analysis of the data was completed in 2005 and Engineering staff began to examine and document samples involved in fire incidents to evaluate aspects of design, installation, use, maintenance, etc. that may have caused these incidents.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete the evaluation and prepare a draft report of the results. In 2007, recommendations for improvements to the appropriate voluntary standards will be made, as warranted.

*Electric Blankets
(Carryover from 2005)*

<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.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete an assessment of blankets in comparison to problems highlighted in recalls. Staff will also conduct a review of the voluntary standard with respect to existing listed blankets and recalled blankets to determine the need for revisions to the standard. A report of this work will be completed in 2007. Also in 2007, recommendations for new provisions in the voluntary standard will be made, as appropriate.

Flammable Liquids

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

During calendar year 2003, an estimated 8,300 thermal burns associated with flammable liquids (gasoline, kerosene, etc) were treated in hospital emergency rooms. There have been more than 100 flammable liquid-related fire deaths since January 2000 through 2003. In collecting clothing fire incidents through our new burn center reporting system, staff found nearly half of the incidents involve children and flammable liquids.

Goal: In 2006, staff will review data available to determine the most significant fire scenarios that involve flammable liquids. In 2007, staff will analyze available data and complete a report on this work, identifying possible approaches to prevent these incidents.

*High Energy Battery Packs/
Chargers*

566 injuries (2002)

Portable electronic devices use higher energy density batteries, such as lithium ion batteries. Batteries that experience an internal cell short may overheat and explode, posing a hazard to consumers. Such a battery failure in a portable device, such as a mobile phone, may result in a potentially hazardous situation because of the close proximity of the phone to the body when in use or in the pocket/side clip during transit. In addition, new technology battery chargers may have faster charge times with increased charging currents and temperatures that require monitoring of the battery charging status.

In 2005, staff supported development of IEEE 1725, Standard for Rechargeable Batteries for Cellular Telephones. Staff also initiated internal short characterization testing (contract effort) of high energy density lithium-ion batteries (cells) for mobile telephone use.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete a report of the contractor's testing and staff's testing. The report will include an evaluation of test results and of methods for reducing hazards associated with mobile phone batteries.

Also in 2006, staff will conduct a hazard sketch of high energy density battery incidents that result in overheating, fire and rupture. In 2007, staff will evaluate the effectiveness of voluntary standards in addressing hazards associated with high energy batteries/battery packs and battery chargers and, as warranted, provide recommendations for safety enhancements.

Mattresses - Cigarette Ignition

180 deaths

520 injuries

\$81.6 million in property losses
(1999-2000 annual average)

As a result of the Commission rulemaking on open flame ignited mattress fires, a review of the continued need for the existing cigarette ignition standard is warranted. In 2005, the Commission published an ANPR initiating a possible amendment or revocation of the existing cigarette ignition standard.

Goal: In 2006, staff will review public comments on the ANPR and work with industry to identify issues to be resolved. Staff will prepare a status report summarizing this work.

*Range/Oven Extinguishing Systems**(Carryover from 2004)*

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

According to 1999 residential fire loss statistics, cooking equipment accounted for 29% of residential structure fires, 13% of the deaths, and 28% of the injuries. Many of these losses were associated with range and oven fires. There are a variety of products marketed to consumers to prevent these fires. Range/oven extinguishing systems vary in complexity and cost, from simple overhead range mounted cans to systems that have the ability to shut off power or gas supply.

Goal: 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. In 2007, staff will pursue standards development activities, as appropriate.

Residential Fire Survey

2,390 deaths
 14,550 injuries
 (1999)

There were an estimated 337,300 residential fires attended by the fire service that resulted in \$4.24 billion in property loss in 1999. Fire service attended fires are thought to represent only about 3 percent of all U.S. residential fires annually based on 1984 data. A probability telephone survey of causes and characteristics of residential fires, both attended and not attended by the fire service, was conducted by a contractor in 2004 and 2005. Data collection included information about the performance of smoke alarms, sprinklers, and fire extinguishers in those fires.

Goal: In 2006, staff will analyze the survey data and complete a final report.

Small Engine Emissions

3,810 injuries from gasoline fueled
 lawn mowing equipment (2000-2004
 annual average)

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been directed by Congress to conduct a rulemaking regarding new emission standards for non-road gasoline engines under 50 horsepower. These engines are used in a wide variety of non-road equipment, such as lawn/garden equipment. CPSC staff will coordinate with EPA on a study of potential safety issues associated with their regulation.

Goal: In 2006, staff will coordinate with EPA on a study of potential safety issues associated with regulations for small engine emissions currently being developed by EPA. Staff will aid in the evaluation of consumer use issues that include real-world scenarios involving the potential for operator burns, fires due to contact with flammable items and refueling.

Smoke Alarms

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

The National Fire Protection Association (September 2001) reports that, as of 1997, 94 percent 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.

A report of research recently completed by The National Institute of Standards and Technology, *Performance of Home Smoke Alarms*, concludes that 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, CPSC staff investigated solutions to reduce the response detection time of a smoke alarm in the event of a fire. Both direct (modification of the smoke alarm) and indirect (additional means to notify a main smoke alarm unit) methods of improving alarm detection will be investigated to reduce response time.

Goal: In 2006, CPSC staff will construct and test a prototype smoke alarm. In 2007, improvements to the voluntary standard will be developed as appropriate.

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

Voluntary Standards

Goal: Staff will monitor or participate in the developing or modifying of voluntary standards for products such as candles, fire sprinklers, arc fault circuit interrupters, portable fans, heaters, smoke alarms, surge suppressors, and batteries.

Identify and act on products that present a risk of fire-related death through:

5. *Recalls*

Goal: Staff will initiate recalls or other corrective actions for a projected 326 products that violate mandatory safety standards or unregulated products that present a substantial risk of fire-related death and injury.

6. *Voluntary Standards*

Goal: Staff will monitor 1 existing voluntary standard likely to reduce fire-related deaths. Products related to fire hazards that staff recently monitored include halogen lamps and extension cords.

7. *Import Surveillance*

Goal: Staff will conduct port-of-entry surveillance for 1 product for which fire safety standards are in effect.

8. Conduct 7 public information efforts, including at least 1 partnership with industry and/or a fire safety group.*Fireworks*

Goal: Staff 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 release of a VNR. Possible partnerships may include the National Park Service and the Department of Homeland Security. CPSC will work with fire departments to demonstrate the dangers of fireworks and conduct safety campaigns at the community level in cooperation with hospitals, youth groups, schools, and others. Staff may reissue a fireworks safety poster for use by the Neighborhood Safety Network.

General Fire Hazards

Goal: In support of CPSC's development of possible new open-flame flammability standards for mattresses, mattress and foundation sets and bedclothes, staff will develop and conduct an information campaign that includes news releases, VNRs, and posters for NSN partners and other grassroots organizations. This media will focus on keeping consumers aware of the latest information in the development of the standards. If a final rule is adopted, staff will also develop appropriate consumer literature.

Halloween Hazards

Goal: Staff 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. Staff will issue a press release and provide TV and radio interviews.

Holiday Hazards

Goal: During the winter holiday season, staff 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. Staff will include similar information in regional Christmas/winter holiday safety campaigns to warn about the risk of fire.

Home Heating

Goal: At the beginning of the home heating season, staff will issue a seasonal video news release to warn about fire hazards from home heating equipment, especially space heaters.

Safety for Older Consumers

Goal: Staff will highlight the risk of fire in older homes and with older products to senior consumers this year. This outreach campaign will emphasize the simple actions seniors can take to reduce the danger of fire in the home. The campaign may include partnerships with such senior-serving organizations as AARP, National Safety Council, or CDC for a media event, news release, and Neighborhood Safety Network poster.

Smoke Alarms

Goal: In a continuing effort to remind consumers that smoke alarms save lives, staff 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.**9. *Press Releases***

Goal: Staff will issue an estimated 113 press releases and recall alerts³ to inform the public about products presenting a risk of fire-related death.

10. *Television Appearances*

Goal: In an effort to have the widest dissemination possible of our safety message, staff will utilize mass media and provide 13 television interviews and appearances to air on local and national network stations on topics related to products that present fire hazards.

11. *E-Publications*

Goal: Through our Web site, we will inform consumers of fire hazards through the electronic distribution of 340,000 safety alerts, fact sheets, and other Web publications.

³ We issue recall alerts rather than a press release when the manufacturer or retailer has a record of all the purchasers of the recalled product and can contact them directly.



KEEPING FAMILIES SAFE FROM ELECTROCUTIONS

THE HAZARD

In 2001⁴, 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.

2006 ANNUAL ELECTROCUTION-RELATED GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<i>Safety Standards</i>							
1. Complete data analysis and technical review activities	Goal	3	1	*	*	2	2
	Actual	1	1	--	--	1	2
2. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions	Goal	*	*	2	2	1	2
	Actual	2	4	2	2	1	2
<i>Compliance</i>							
3. Pursue recall or other corrective actions	Goal	15	15	15 ^a	20 ^a	25 ^a	24 ^a
	Actual	13	31	18	35	23	24 ^a
Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<i>Consumer Information</i>							
4. Conduct public information efforts/partnerships	Goal	1	1	2	2	1	1
	Actual	1	3	2	2	1	1
5. Issue press releases and recall alerts	Goal	8	8 ^b	8 ^b	15 ^{b,c}	15 ^{b,c}	21 ^{b,c}
	Actual	9	25	21	35	18	21 ^{b,c}
6. Provide television interviews and appearances	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	4
	Actual	--	--	--	3	4	4
7. Inform consumers through electronic publications on our Web site (in thousands)	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	110
	Actual	--	--	--	116	118	118

*No goal established. --Data not available.

^a 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.

^b These goals were changed to include all product hazards not just recalled products as in previous years.

^c This goal now includes recall alerts.

⁴2001 is the latest year for which fatality data is available.

1. Complete 2 data analysis and technical review activities.

Electric Toys

The Office of Management and Budget recommended that CPSC conduct a more systematic review of its rules. In 2004, staff conducted a pilot study to examine the feasibility of such a review and during that process, identified the Electric Toy Regulation as a candidate for updating. Staff identified several changes that could be considered for the Electric Toy rule. In 2005, staff completed draft recommendations for outdated references to standards and improvements to warning labels. The staff also proposed adding requirements for a ground fault circuit interrupter for the voluntary standard on electric fans to prevent risk of electrocution with home-use inflatables.

Goal: In 2006, staff 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, as well as other technical provisions in the rule. Staff will complete draft recommendations to change the requirements, as appropriate.

Self-Testing GFCIs

28 deaths (2002)

GFCIs have contributed significantly to the reduction of electrocution and severe electric shock incidents since their introduction in the early 1970s. However, GFCIs can fail in a manner such that an outlet can still provide power even though it no longer provides its safety function. There may be no warning to the consumer 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.

Goal: In 2006, staff will evaluate the design of the self-testing GFCI developed for commercial applications, and 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 2007, we will continue to work with industry to enhance GFCIs and make recommendations for improvements to the voluntary standard, if appropriate.

2. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions.*Voluntary Standards*

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

3. Pursue recalls or other corrective actions.*Recalls*

Goal: Staff will identify and act on products that present a risk of electrocution by seeking recalls or other corrective actions.

Alert the public to electrocution hazards.**4. Public Information Effort**

Goal: Staff will develop and distribute a poster for use by the Neighborhood Safety Network partners to keep consumers vigilant of electrocution and electric shock hazards.

5. Press Releases/Recall Alerts

Goal: Staff will issue an estimated 21 press releases and recall alerts for products presenting a risk of electrocution.

6. Television Appearances

Goal: In an effort to have the widest dissemination possible of our safety message, staff will utilize mass media and provide 4 television interviews and appearances to air on local and national network stations on topics related to products that present electrocution hazards.

7. E-Publications

Goal: Through out Web site, we will inform consumers of electrocution hazards through the electronic distribution of 110,000 safety alerts, fact sheets, and other Web publications.



KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE FROM HAZARDS

INTRODUCTION

Hazards to children are associated with a wide-range of consumer products. Examples include: 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; drowning hazards related to pools and other in-home products; and various hazards with infant products, such as old or improperly constructed highchairs and strollers.

In our Strategic Plan, currently under revision, we had a goal to reduce child drownings by 20 percent. We will continue our work in reducing child drownings including expanding our public information efforts, however 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.

HAZARDS	2004 Actual		2005 Actual		2006 Plan	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Children's Hazards	88	\$11,456	78	\$10,975	78	\$10,638

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 pay; and recalled numerous toys and other products that present choking hazards to children.

2006 ANNUAL GOALS FOR CHILDREN'S HAZARDS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Safety Standards							
1. Prepare candidates for rulemaking	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	2
	Actual	--	--	--	--	--	
2. Complete testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review activities	Goal	4	8	4	9	11	7
	Actual	3	8	4	6	11	
3. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions	Goal	*	*	30	32	31	32
	Actual	22	32	30	32	32	
Compliance							
4. Pursue for recall or other corrective action	Goal	*	270	225	250 ^a	285 ^a	287 ^a
	Actual	356	267	262	312	301	
5. Monitor existing voluntary standards	Goal	2	2	1	2 ^a	2 ^a	2 ^a
	Actual	1	3	1	2	2	
6. Conduct import surveillance	Goal	*	*	1	1 ^a	1 ^a	1 ^a
	Actual	1	1	1	1	1	
Consumer Information.							
7. Conduct public information efforts	Goal	4	3	6	9	6	5
	Actual	4	5	5	7	4	
8. Issue press releases and recall alerts	Goal	*	*	*	72 ^{b,c}	72 ^{b,c}	87 ^{b,c}
	Actual	79	67	73	95	93	
9. Provide television interviews and appearances	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	28
	Actual	--	--	--	35	30	
10. Inform consumers through electronic publications on our Web site (in thousands)	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	1,340
	Actual	--	--	--	1,464	1,449	

*No goal established for that year.

--Data not available.

^a 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.

^b This goal now includes recall alerts.

^c These goals were changed to include all product hazards not just recalled products as in previous years.

1. Prepare for Commission consideration 2 candidates for rulemaking or other alternatives.

Bed Rails

(Carryover from 2004)

14 deaths (1990-2001)

In October 2000, CPSC published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) to begin the development of a mandatory safety standard for portable bed rails to address entrapment and strangulation hazards. In October 2001, the Commission voted unanimously to continue the process and publish a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR). In 2003, staff continued activities to develop appropriate performance requirements and the proposed rule. In 2004, staff focused on the evaluation of test methods and new bed rail designs. Staff began evaluating industry conformance

to the updated voluntary standard in September 2004, when the voluntary standard had been in effect for sufficient time for industry to meet new requirements. In 2005, staff continued its evaluation of industry conformance with the revised voluntary standard.

Goal: In 2006, staff is continuing its evaluation of industry conformance to the voluntary standard. It is anticipated that a briefing package will be completed in 2006 for Commission consideration as to whether to continue rulemaking.

Crib Slats
(Carryover from 2003-2004)

138 incidents
12 deaths
5 injuries (1985-1996)

In 1996, CPSC began a rulemaking activity to address crib slat integrity. In 1999, the voluntary standard for cribs was revised to include performance requirements for crib slats. In 2003 and 2004, the staff evaluated industry conformance to the voluntary standard. Conformance monitoring of crib slats was completed in 2005.

Goal: Data collection regarding incidents is still underway and is anticipated to be completed in 2006. At the conclusion of staff's data collection efforts, a briefing package that provides recommendations with regard to the open rulemaking will be prepared for Commission consideration.

2. Complete 7 testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review activities.

Consumer Opinion Forum

CPSC staff frequently needs specific information about caregiver perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors related to products that may be hazardous to children, as well as other childcare issues affecting safety. The CPSC Web site provides a venue to solicit important information from consumers that, although not a statistical sample, can inform staff efforts in hazard identification and reduction, compliance and enforcement, and public education. In 2005, staff developed and completed a plan for review by the Commission for obtaining OMB approval to maintain a pool of consumer volunteers who are willing to provide, on an as-needed basis, information about their perceptions, attitudes and behaviors associated with consumer products.

Goal: In 2006, if approved by the Commission, staff will seek OMB approval to maintain a pool of consumer volunteers. When approval is obtained, staff will implement the plan.

*Drowning Data Development
(Carryover from 2005)*

In 2005, staff examined peer-reviewed publications of programs and theories pertaining to changing human behavior, updated child drowning death data, compiled data on incidents on inflatable swimming pools and held joint meetings with ASTM to discuss possible remedies to address drowning hazards.

Goal: In 2006, based on the information reviewed in 2005, staff will identify and develop information for new parents to address drowning hazards.

*Handbook for Public Playground
Safety (Carryover from 2005)*
207,100 injuries
(2003 NEISS, children <15 years old
in all locations)

In 2005, staff continued to review the *Handbook for Public Playground Safety* and drafted updates as needed to be consistent with current voluntary standards, Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, surfacing recommendations, and knowledge of hazards.

Goal: In 2006, staff will update and distribute the revised handbook.

*Indoor Play Surfacing
(Carryover from 2005)*

In the past, staff has not provided specific guidance on what types of protective surfaces may be suitable around indoor play equipment. In 2005, staff collected 32 different carpet, pad, and mat samples that might be considered for use as a protective surfacing for indoor play areas. The staff conducted drop (impact) tests on the samples and determined the maximum deceleration (g-max) and Head Injury Criterion for each material. Staff calculated the product "Critical Height" from collected data. Test results indicated that consumer have a wide choice of products with different thicknesses, costs per square foot, and "Critical Height" capabilities. Critical Heights ranged from 2 inches for a thin carpet sample and over 48 inches for a 2 inch thick gym pad.

Goal: In 2006, staff will finalize a report based on input from the public comment period and will participate in voluntary standards activities associated with playground surfacing.

Pool Safety Handbook
children <5 years
244 pool drowning deaths
152 other home drowning deaths
(2000-2002 annual average)

We developed two major publications to address safety issues associated with pools and spas. These publications, *Safety Barrier Guidelines for Home Pools* and *Guidelines for Entrapment Hazards: Making Pools and Spas Safer*, have been referenced in the building codes of many states and local jurisdictions.

Goal: Beginning in 2005 with completion in 2006, staff will combine and update the two documents to include current safe practices in new pool design and construction, information about minimum layers of protection, and CPSC staff findings on pool alarms, perimeter alarms, and current applicable standards associated with pools and pool safety products. Staff intends for the publication to become a single reference guide on pool safety issues.

Recreational Helmets, Consumer Pamphlet (Carryover from 2005)

Over 90,000 head injuries

Studies have shown that children have a higher risk of head injury than adults and that children's head injuries may have life-altering consequences. Consumers may be unaware of the need to wear a helmet during certain activities that are known to produce head injuries. Additionally, due to the many different activities that consumers/children may be involved in, there may be confusion as to the applicability of one type of helmet to various activities products (i.e. multiuse capability). In 2004, staff completed an analysis of the injury data associated with activities for which helmets are available, researched the applicable helmet standards, and initiated a review of those standards.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete and distribute the pamphlet.

Sensor Technology

children <5 years
244 pool drowning deaths
152 other home drowning deaths
(2000-2002 annual average)

The CPSC staff believes that many hazards to consumers could be prevented if the conditions leading to these hazards were detected and addressed before an injury occurs. Current and emerging sensor technologies are highly sensitive to minute changes in physical movements and other physical parameters, potentially allowing for early detection and warning of many hazard scenarios associated with a broad range of consumer products, including drowning hazards with swimming pools and spas.

In 2005, staff evaluated technologies capable of discriminating children from adults and assessed some of the factors that affect continuous monitoring of potentially hazardous areas, such as around pools and spas. A simple demonstration system was developed and field tested.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete a report describing the test set-up and results.

3. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions.

Voluntary Standards

Goal: Staff will monitor or participate in developing or revising 32 voluntary safety standards for children's

products, including playground equipment, baby walkers, toddler beds, infant carriers, and strollers.

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

4. *Recalls*

Goal: Staff will pursue recalls or other corrective actions on hazardous products that present a substantial risk of injury (other than drowning in pools) to children or violate CPSC's safety standards.

5. *Voluntary Standards*

Goal: Staff will monitor 2 existing voluntary standards likely to reduce children's deaths or injuries.

6. *Import Surveillance*

Goal: Staff will conduct 1 port-of-entry surveillance for children's products that present a substantial risk of injury to children.

7. Conduct 5 public information efforts and/or partnerships with a trade association or safety advocacy group.

Back to School Safety

Goal: Staff are 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 and playgrounds safer. We will issue a press release on back-to-school safety issues that includes safety tips to keep children safe in our *National Back-to-School Safety* program.

Childcare Safety Campaign

Goal: Staff will conduct our annual major safety round-up program focusing on recalled products still in the marketplace. For example, in 2005, staff will conduct a major news event focusing on products that have been recalled and are in childcare settings. Campaign efforts will highlight the need for childcare providers to visit our Web site, www.cpsc.gov, and the www.recalls.gov Web site. Staff are also planning to develop safety posters with our Neighborhood Safety Network partners. Staff will distribute childcare center safety checklists to state/local groups. Additionally, staff will conduct 30 in-center product safety consultations and disseminate product safety information to child care centers nationwide. A similar program will be conducted in 2006.

Holiday Shopping Season/ Product Recall Roundup

Goal: During the fall holiday season, as part of our drive to remove recalled products from the public domain, staff will continue to build upon the success of our Website,

www.cpsc.gov, and the www.recalls.gov Website for notifying consumers about recalls products. Staff 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 news release video, safety poster, and other materials as necessary for use at the grassroots level. Other regional activities will include such programs as local media interviews, and speaking engagements.

In-Home Drowning

Goal: Staff will continue to caution consumers about in-home drowning hazards for young children associated with any standing water such as buckets and bathtubs. As part of this effort, we will issue a poster for the Neighborhood Safety Network partners.

Pool Drownings

Goal: Staff will expand our public information efforts, such as partnerships with child safety organizations to continue our work in reducing child drownings. Staff will continue to issue our annual news release and VNR before Memorial Day to inform consumers about the drowning hazard to children at both public and home pools. The safety information will highlight CPSC's revised *Guidelines for Entrapment Hazards: Making Pools and Spas Safer*. Field staff will make a minimum of 30 contacts nationwide with state and local pool inspectors, pool contractors, or licensing bureaus to disseminate safety information for public and private pools, including CPSC's *Guidelines for Entrapment Hazards* mentioned above and our *Safety Barrier Guidelines for Home Pools*.

Alert the public to the hazards of injuries to children through:

8. *Press Releases/Recall Alerts* **Goal:** Staff will issue an estimated 87 press releases and Web recall alerts to inform the public about products presenting a risk of injury to children.

9. *Television Appearances* **Goal:** In an effort to have the widest dissemination possible of our safety message, staff will utilize mass media and provide 28 television interviews and appearances to air on local and national network stations on topics related to products that present children's hazards.

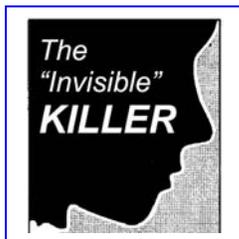
10. *E-Publications* **Goal:** Through our Web site, inform consumers of children's hazards through the electronic distribution of 1,340,000 safety alerts, fact sheets, and other Web publications.

CHEMICAL HAZARDS

INTRODUCTION

In this program, we address two chemical hazard areas: 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.

HAZARDS	2004 Actual		2005 Plan		2006 Request	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Carbon Monoxide Poisonings	12	\$1,629	10	\$1,473	14	\$2,302
Other Chemical	49	6,561	40	5,946	38	5,636
TOTAL	61	\$8,190	50	\$7,419	52	\$7,938



KEEPING FAMILIES SAFE FROM 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.

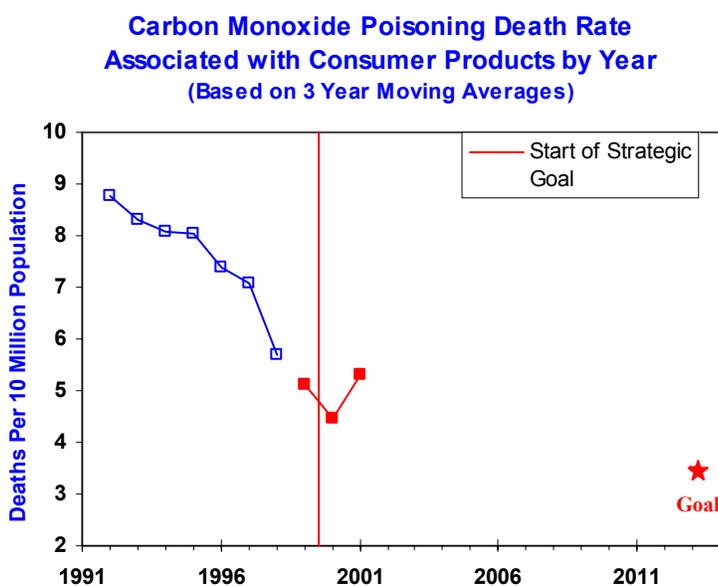
From 1999-2002, there was an annual average of 141 unintentional non-fire CO poisoning deaths associated with consumer products, at a societal cost of approximately \$705 million each year. Because some symptoms of moderate CO poisoning may mimic common illnesses, such as influenza or colds, there may 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.⁵

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.

Recently, there has been an increase in the number of CO-related deaths, in part associated with the use of portable

⁵The 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.

generators during natural disasters, such as hurricanes. Activities in our plan are designed to mitigate this increase.

2006 ANNUAL CARBON MONOXIDE-RELATED GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<i>Safety Standards</i>							
1. Complete testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review activities	Goal	1	3	2	0	3	3
	Actual	0	3	2	0	1	
2. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions	Goal	*	*	4	3	3	3
	Actual	4	4	4	3	3	
<i>Compliance</i>							
3. Pursue for recall or other corrective action	Goal	2	2	2 ^a	2 ^a	2 ^a	2 ^a
	Actual	6	11	2	1	2	
4. Monitor existing voluntary standards	Goal	*	*	*	1	*	1
	Actual	--	0	0	0	0	
<i>Consumer Information</i>							
5. Conduct public information efforts/partnerships	Goal	2	1	3	3	2	3
	Actual	1	3	3	3	2	
6. Issue press releases and recall alerts	Goal	3	1 ^b	1 ^b	5 ^{b,c}	5 ^{b,c}	8 ^{b,c}
	Actual	3	8	6	7	8	
7. Provide television interviews and appearances	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	3
	Actual	--	--	--	5	3	
8. Inform consumers through electronic publications on our Web site (in thousands)	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	130
	Actual	--	--	--	122	146	

*No goal established.

--Data not available

^a 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.

^b This goal was changed to include all products not just recalled products as in previous years.

^c This goal now includes recall alerts.

1. Complete 3 testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review activity.

CO Sensors for Vented Gas Appliances

67 deaths
(1999-2002 annual average)

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) entered into an agreement with CPSC to develop one of its micro-electromechanical system (MEMS) sensor technologies to be used in a gas furnace. In 2005 staff provided data that defines a furnace's operating environment to SNL for use in testing and will work with SNL to integrate a prototype MEMS sensor into a furnace to test it. Staff will also continue to work with industry to evaluate various sensors.

Goal: In 2006, staff will work with SNL to demonstrate the use of a sensor technology developed by SNL to shut down a gas furnace in response to excess CO levels in the flue. A report of this work will be completed in 2006. Staff will also

demonstrate the use of an oxygen depletion sensor to shut down a gas furnace in response to excess CO levels in the flue. A report of this work will be completed in 2007.

Portable Generators

15 deaths
(1999 - 2004 annual average)

The percentage of estimated unintentional non-fire CO poisoning deaths associated with generators has been increasing annually. The contribution of generators to the total yearly estimated CO poisoning deaths for the years 1999 through 2002 are 6%, 14%, 17%, and 24% respectively.

In 2005, staff began investigating the feasibility of interlocking shutdown devices that will shut the engine down before an unsafe CO environment is created by an operating portable generator. Staff also continued to collect and analyze incident data and market data as well as expand public awareness information.

Goal: In 2006, staff will continue to investigate different strategies by working with other federal agencies, manufacturers, retailers, and other stakeholders to develop and execute technical and non-technical solutions that will reduce the risk of CO poisoning from portable generators, complete its feasibility assessments of interlock devices, and prepare a briefing package that provides a comprehensive review of safety issues related to portable generators. The briefing package will include options for the Commission to consider in order to address the hazard.

Stand Alone Gas Appliances (Tank-Top Heaters) (Carryover from 2005)

75 deaths (1999-2002 annual average)

From 1999 through 2001, there was an annual average of 59 non-fire-related CO poisoning deaths associated with gas heating appliances. Some of the deaths were the result of consumers using alternative heat sources during power outages. Additional incidents occurred when consumers attempted to restart appliances after they had shut down.

Goal: In 2006, staff will conduct a review of the latest low-powered sensor technologies that can be used for a CO shutoff system and alternative methods to power the sensors. Staff will continue work on the thermoelectric-powered shutoff system developed during a study of tank-top heaters and conduct additional feasibility tests. Results will be summarized in a report in 2007.

2. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions.

Voluntary Standards

Goal: Staff will monitor or participate in developing or modifying voluntary standards or model codes for products such as CO alarms, portable generators, and CO sensors for vented gas appliances.

3. *Recalls*

Goal: Staff will identify and act on products that present a risk of death from CO poisoning by obtaining recalls or other corrective actions for 2 products that present a substantial risk of CO poisoning.

4. *Voluntary Standards*

Goal: Staff will monitor 1 existing voluntary standard related to carbon monoxide hazards.

5. Conduct 3 public information efforts and/or partnerships with a trade association or safety advocacy group.

Home Heating

Goal: To remind the public of the continuing threat of CO in the home, staff will be planning several activities throughout the year to highlight the need for routine maintenance. At the beginning of home heating season staff will issue a seasonal video news release to warn about CO hazards from home heating equipment, especially space heaters. Throughout the year staff will remind consumers of specific issues that include the need to change batteries in CO alarms and to have a routine furnace checkup completed. We will also emphasize the hazards associated with portable generators. These activities may use posters, news releases and other similar media instruments.

Natural Disaster Awareness

Goal: During times when there is a loss of power, homeowners may be exposed to more risk of CO poisoning due to improper use of consumer products to heat and provide power to their homes. Staff will use news releases and VNRs to address the dangers of consumer product use in the home during hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and/or blizzards.

Portable Generators

Goal: CPSC intends to promote portable generator safety and warn about the associated carbon monoxide danger through: pre-storm safety alerts to the media in regions expected to experience a loss of power; a pre-hurricane season national press event, followed by state events in areas expected to be affected by hurricanes; and

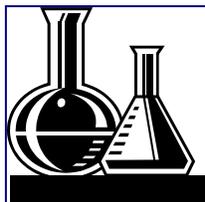
development of an emergency response plan in coordination with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CPSC and its partners will develop and distribute videos and audio files for the media and consumers during the course of the year.

Alert the public to the hazards of CO poisoning deaths.

- 6. *Press Releases/Recall Alerts*** **Goal:** Staff will issue an estimated 8 press releases or Web recall alerts for hazardous products presenting a risk of CO poisoning.

- 7. *Television Appearances*** **Goal:** In an effort to have the widest dissemination possible of our safety message, staff will utilize mass media and provide 3 television interviews and appearances to air on local and national network stations on topics related to products that present CO poisoning hazards.

- 8. *E-Publications*** **Goal:** Through our Web site, inform consumers of CO poisoning hazards through the electronic distribution of 130,000 safety alerts, fact sheets, and other Web publications.



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.

2006 ANNUAL GOALS FOR OTHER CHEMICAL HAZARDS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<i>Safety Standards</i>							
1. Complete testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review activities	Goal	*	4	5	8	5	8
	Actual	--	3	5	8	5	
2. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions	Goal	*	*	2	2	2	5
	Actual	2	1	2	2	2	
<i>Compliance</i>							
3. Pursue for recall or other corrective action	Goal	*	55	70	90 ^a	110 ^a	142 ^a
	Actual	79	162	125	132	156	
<i>Consumer Information</i>							
4. Conduct public information effort	Goal	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Actual	1	1	1	1	1	
5. Issue press releases and recall alerts	Goal	*	*	5 ^b	6 ^{b,c}	5 ^{b,c}	22 ^{b,c}
	Actual	11	8	11	16	27	
6. Provide television interviews and appearances	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	10
	Actual	--	--	--	16	13	
7. Inform consumers through electronic publications on our Web site (in thousands)	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	250
	Actual	--	--	--	266	269	

*No goal established for that year.

--Data not available.

^a Estimate based on the most recent 5 years of data. The actual number of recalls and other corrective actions will depend on the mix of safety-related problems arising during the year.

^b These goals were changed to include all hazardous products not just recalled products as in previous years.

^c This goal now includes recall alerts.

1. Complete 8 testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review/report activities.

Chronic Toxicity Guidelines

Work begun in 2004 and 2005 will continue in 2006 on the systematic review of the CPSC chronic hazard guidelines, with appropriate revisions to address scientific advances.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete draft guidance addressing cross-cutting contemporary topics that broadly apply to toxicology and risk assessment.

Hazard Screening

Staff will continue screening data generated, compiled, or analyzed by the Environmental Protection Agency, National Toxicology Program, or International Agency of Research in Cancer for the purpose of identifying potential hazards in consumer products.

Goal: In 2006, staff will identify potential hazards for consideration as new projects or reviews under the toxicity assessment activity and prepare a report with recommendations for further action.

Implementation of GHS for Labeling

Goal: In 2006, staff will review options for implementation of the globally harmonized system (GHS) for chemical classification and labeling as it pertains to the FHSA and its regulations, as well as the existing (1979) FHSA guide for labeling chemicals. Staff will prepare a report summarizing its work in this area. In 2007, staff will make recommendations for changes, as needed, to reflect the GHS. It is anticipated that an updated labeling guide will emphasize the process for determining the proper labeling for a product, rather than providing labels for specific products.

Interagency Coordination

A number of new non-animal test methods (i.e., “alternative test methods”) have been under development and are likely to be sent to the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) for validation and acceptance. The Commission is obligated by the ICCVAM Authorization Act to respond to each test method validated by ICCVAM.

Goal: In 2006, staff will continue to review alternative test methods that have been accepted by the ICCVAM and will prepare a briefing package with a staff recommendation for Commission action regarding approval of an alternative test method, as warranted. Staff will also participate in interagency groups, including the National Toxicology Program, ICCVAM, and National Cancer Advisory Board.

Pediatric Poisoning Fatalities Update

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

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: In 2006, staff will prepare the annual report on pediatric deaths due to unintentional ingestions of drugs and other household substances.

Poison Prevention

The purpose of the project is to reduce injuries and deaths of children associated with ingestion of household chemicals. The project will continue to monitor ingestions of hazardous household chemicals and to assess them for the need for child-resistant packaging.

Goal: In 2006, staff will work on technical analyses related to hydroxide-containing products and imidazolines, as appropriate. This work will be summarized in a report. The staff will also prepare a draft package on nonaspirin salicylates that were identified during the rule review of the child-resistant packaging requirements for aspirin and methyl salicylate.

Strong Sensitizer Definition

In 1986, the Commission issued a rule supplementing the definition of strong sensitizer found in the Federal Hazardous Substances Act (FHSA). The area of immunology has grown and changed since the 1986 rule and it is appropriate to update this definition, as it could be the basis for labeling and/or recalling consumer products. The purpose of this project is to formally review and revise accordingly the supplemental definitions of a sensitizer found in the FHSA regulations. This will involve input and review from experts in the fields of immunology.

Goal: In 2006, based on technical analysis of the results from a panel of experts on sensitizers convened in 2004-2005, staff will draft recommendations and the rationale for them, as appropriate.

Toxicity Assessment

Staff will address a broad spectrum of products and effects by continuing ongoing assessments and initiating new assessments depending on the identification of emerging hazards. Potential topics in 2006 include nanotechnology, ozone generators/air cleaners, lead, chromated copper arsenic (CCA) mitigation, and/or silica.

Goal: Staff will complete at least one report or risk assessment under this activity in 2006.

2. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions.

Voluntary Standards

Goal: Staff will monitor or participate in developing or modifying 5 voluntary standards related to other chemical hazards. Staff will participate in development of analytical methods for product chemical analyses. Areas will include child-resistant packaging, gasoline containers, CCA, lead in jewelry, and flame retardant chemicals.

3. Recalls

Goal: Staff will identify and act on products that present a risk of death from other chemical hazards by pursuing 142 recalls or other corrective actions for violations of mandatory

safety standards or for unregulated products that present a substantial risk of other chemical hazards.

4. Conduct 1 public information effort/partnership.

Poison Prevention

Goal: During National Poison Prevention Week, staff 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, field staff will promote the benefits of child-resistant packaging in preventing children's poisonings using activities such as radio interviews, local press publications, presentations to state and local product safety groups and partnering with other injury prevention organizations, as appropriate.

Alert the public to the hazards of other chemical hazards.

5. *Press Releases/Recall Alerts*

Goal: Staff will issue an estimated 22 press releases or recall alerts to inform the public about hazardous products presenting a risk of other chemical hazards.

6. *Television Appearances*

Goal: In an effort to have the widest dissemination possible of our safety message, staff will utilize mass media and provide 10 television interviews and appearances to air on local and national network stations on topics related to products that present other chemical hazards.

7. *E-Publications*

Goal: Through our Web site, inform consumers of other chemical hazards through the electronic distribution of 250,000 safety alerts, fact sheets, and other Web publications.



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.

HAZARD	2004 Actual		2005 Actual		2006 Plan	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Household and Recreation	53	\$6,722	51	\$6,902	59	\$8,609

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, staff improved lawn mower safety by establishing a standard addressing blade contact. We estimate that the 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.

2006 ANNUAL GOALS FOR HOUSEHOLD AND RECREATION HAZARDS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Safety Standards							
1. Prepare candidates for rulemaking	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	1
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	
2. Complete testing, data collection, hazard analysis, or technical review activities	Goal	*	2	2	4	5	4
	Actual	--	2	1	3	5	
3. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions	Goal	*	*	11	14	17	13
	Actual	12	8	15	18	19	
Compliance							
4. Pursue for recall or other corrective action	Goal	*	30	45	80 ^a	100 ^a	130 ^a
	Actual	91	135	84	123	148	
Consumer Information							
5. Conduct public information effort	Goal	*	*	*	1	2	1
	Actual	--	--	--	0	1	
6. Issue press releases and recall alerts	Goal	*	20 ^b	20 ^b	50 ^{b,c}	50 ^{b,c}	116 ^{b,c}
	Actual	45	65	49	86	143	
7. Provide television interviews and appearances	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	15
	Actual	--	--	--	13	16	
8. Inform consumers through electronic publications on our Web site (in thousands)	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	135
	Actual	--	--	--	150	158	

*No goal established for that year.

--Data not available.

^a 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.

^b This goal was changed to include all hazardous products not just recalled products as in previous years.

^c This goal now includes recall alerts.

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 recent years, there has been a dramatic increase in both the numbers of ATVs in-use and the numbers of ATV-related deaths and injuries. According to the Commission's 2004 ATV annual report, the Commission has reports of more than 6,000 ATV-related deaths since 1982. The Commission is considering what actions, both regulatory and non-regulatory, it could take to reduce ATV-related deaths and injuries.

Goal: In 2006, staff will conduct a comprehensive review of regulatory and non-regulatory options to address ATV hazards, including possible voluntary or mandatory performance standards, training requirements, point-of-sale requirements, age guidelines, and others. In 2006, staff will

also review comments submitted in response to the ANPR and will prepare a status report for Commission consideration.

2. Complete 4 testing, data collection, or hazard analysis activities to evaluate the need for, or adequacy of, safety standards.

ATV Data Update

740 estimated deaths (2003)
136,100 emergency room-treated injuries (2004)

Data on ATV deaths and injuries has been collected and updated annually since 1982. The report includes the total number of ATV related deaths, deaths by state, relative risk of death by year, annual estimates of ATV-related hospital emergency room treated injuries, and injuries distributed by year and age grouping.

Goal: Staff will complete the annual ATV data update report.

Bicycle Integrity/Illumination

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

The Federal bicycle regulation was developed by CPSC in the early 1970s and last amended by CPSC in 1981. Since then, the evolution of bicycle technology, especially in mountain and extreme downhill bicycles, and frame configurations, has led to advancements that are not currently covered by the Federal bicycle regulation. Voluntary standards coverage of new technology is emerging, but limited. Meanwhile, bicycle injury rates remain high.

While the majority of bicycle-related injuries occur during daylight hours, CPSC staff analysis found that a bicyclist is 2-4 times as likely to get killed while riding at night versus riding during the day. Staff research found that, while improvements to bicycle reflectors likely will not significantly improve nighttime conspicuity, a rear flashing light emitting diode (LED) bicycle light could significantly improve the bicycle's visibility. Over the past few years, advances in LED technology have resulted in affordable, brighter lights that use less battery power.

Goal: In 2006, staff will review the Federal bicycle regulation, ASTM and ISO standards and injury data. Based on the staff's evaluation, staff will selectively test bicycle components with the intent of developing specific recommendations for new provisions in voluntary and/or mandatory standards. In 2006, staff will also review the current data associated with nighttime bicycling, bicycle lighting standards, and the bicycle lighting market. Staff will initiate work with ASTM to develop minimum requirements

for bicycle detection and recognition. This effort will continue in 2007.

Senior Safety

7,500 fall-related deaths
in home settings
(ages 65 and over; 2003)

From 1997 to 2002, there has been an increase in injuries to the elderly. There were roughly 1.4 million emergency room-treated injuries to the elderly (ages 65 and older) in 2002. Twenty-three percent of these injuries were serious enough for the patient to be hospitalized, transferred, or held for observation. The proportion of older adults in the U.S. population continues to rise.

There exists a wealth of data on the compromised psychological, anthropometric, cognitive, sensory, and performance capabilities of older persons. The implications for increased potential hazards and injury to this vulnerable population are significant. Designing products and the environment for safety and easier use most typically results in outcomes that benefit all user populations. The human factors profession has long advocated “universal design,” a well-designed product that is not only easier to use and safer for someone who has compromised abilities, but also is easier to use for those who are fully capable. The outcomes of this project, therefore, while initiated for seniors, would ultimately serve all populations. In 2005, staff completed a comprehensive profile of older adults in terms of attributes relevant to consumer-product interactions.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete a human factor evaluation of epidemiological data associated with injuries to older adults. Staff will identify common hazard patterns and determine likely human factors-related causes of incidents and hazard patterns. A report of this work will be completed in 2006. This information will be used to develop hazard reduction strategies in 2007.

Sensor Technology (Riding Mower)

631 injuries
(children less than 15 years; 2002)

In 2002, there were an estimated 631 children under 15 years of age who were injured when a riding mower ran over them. Many injuries are caused by children running in front of an operating mower or walking unnoticed behind an in-service mower. About one-third of injuries were of a serious nature such as internal injuries or amputations, while the remaining victims suffered from contusions/ abrasions, fractures, lacerations, or other injuries.

Staff began exploring the feasibility of an onboard interactive system for a typical riding lawn mower that will be capable of sensing and/or anticipating a potentially dangerous condition, quickly overriding the operator, and

forcing the riding mower into a “safe” mode. In 2005, staff performed data collection and analysis; defined riding lawn mower, bystander, and operator motion and response parameters; defined the specific hazards associated with the lawn mower; and determined the relative feasibility of solving the technical problems.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete a report of the staff’s assessment of the data analysis, review requirements in the voluntary standard, and make recommendations for next steps.

3. Monitor or participate in voluntary standards revisions.

Voluntary Standards

Goal: Staff will monitor or participate in voluntary standards activities related to products including ATVs, bicycles, hot tubs/spas, garage door and gate operators, ride-on mowers, paintball guns, paper shredders, motorized scooters, and hunting tree stands.

Identify and act on products that present a risk of household or recreation hazards.

4. *Recalls*

Goal: Staff will obtain 130 recalls or other corrective actions for violations of mandatory safety standards and for unregulated products that present substantial hazards.

5. Conduct 1 public information efforts to provide information to the public about mechanical hazards and prevention.

All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) (Carryover from 2004)

Goal: Staff will develop and conduct a major information and education campaign focusing on preventing injuries and deaths to both children and adults from ATVs similar to the campaign staff developed in 2005. The 2006 campaign will focus specifically in states with the highest proportion of injuries and deaths. The campaign will include a press release, a video news release on ATV hazards, and promote safety tips to help reduce the number of deaths and injuries.

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

6. *Press Releases/Recall Alerts*

Goal: Staff will issue an estimated 116 press releases and Web recall alerts to inform the public about products presenting a risk of a household or recreation hazard.

7. *Television Appearances*

Goal: In an effort to have the widest dissemination possible of our safety message, staff will utilize mass media and provide 15 television interviews and appearances to air on local and national network stations on topics related to products that present household or recreation hazards.

8. *E-Publications*

Goal: Through our Web site, inform consumers of household and recreation poisoning hazards through the electronic distribution of 135,000 safety alerts, fact sheets, and other Web 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.

Activity	2004 Actual		2005 Actual		2006 Plan	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
International Programs and Intergovernmental Affairs	--	--	8	\$850	5	\$625

-- Data not available

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.

2006 ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<i>Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs)</i>							
1. Agreements with foreign countries	Goal	**	**	**	**	**	3
	Actual	--	--	--	2	4	
2. Annual MOU review	Goal	**	**	**	**	**	5
	Actual	--	--	--	--	--	
<i>China Program</i>							
3. Industry-specific safety seminars	Goal	**	**	**	**	**	1
	Actual	--	--	--	--	--	
4. Retail/Vendor training seminars	Goal	**	**	**	**	**	1
	Actual	--	--	--	--	--	
5. Working groups	Goal	**	**	**	**	**	2
	Actual	--	--	--	--	--	
6. Dialogues with stakeholders	Goal	**	**	**	**	**	1
	Actual	--	--	--	--	--	
7. China program plan update	Goal	**	**	**	**	**	1
	Actual	--	--	--	--	--	

**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. In 2004 and 2005 CPSC signed MOUs with the People's Republic of China (April 2004), Taiwan (July 2004), Costa Rica (October 2004), the European Commission (February 2005), Chile (June 2005), and Canada (June 2005).

Goal: In 2006, CPSC will sign 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 2006, we will review 5 MOUs signed prior to 2006.

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 2006, staff will conduct 1 safety seminar in coordination with a Chinese trade fair.

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. Working Group Meetings

Working Groups were convened at the first biennial Sino-American Consumer Product Safety Summit (August-September 2005). Several issues emerged and will be discussed at the annual working group meetings in 2006. 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.

Goal: In 2006, staff will hold annual Working Group Meetings in 2 priority product areas.

6. 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 2006, staff will hold 1 public Roundtable Meeting to discuss an aspect of CPSC's China Program.

7. 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.

Goal: In 2006, staff will update the China Program Plan. The plan will be modified based on experience gained after implementing proposed activities, as well as stakeholder input, including consultation with CPSC's counterpart in the Chinese government.

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.

	2004 Actual		2005 Actual		2006 Plan	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Data Collection	67	\$9,353	85	\$10,600	74	\$11,009
Emerging Hazards/Data Utility	18	1,782	13	1,961	11	1,456
TOTAL	85	\$11,135	98	\$12,561	85	\$12,465

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 relating to 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

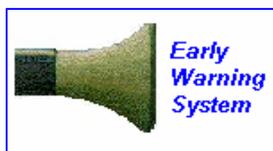
CPSC staff has systematically reviewed death and injury data and associated cost data by product grouping (such as heating, cooking, ventilating equipment, general household appliances, children's products, and home workshop tools) and conducted other emerging hazard reviews. We are conducting special 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 number 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 2006, we reduced resource levels on a prorated basis and annual performance targets by 5 percent to reflect resource reductions, where appropriate.



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 the Commission's Results Act activities.

In 2006, staff 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.

2006 ANNUAL GOALS

Hazard Identification and Data Collection Activities

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
1. Evaluate, train, and audit each hospital in the NEISS sample	Goal	*	100%	100%	100%	100%	95%
	Actual	95%	100%	100%	98%	99%	
2. Capture product-related cases	Goal	*	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Actual	93%	94%	94%	93%	92%	
3. Complete headquarters telephone investigations in fewer than 45 business days	Goal	*	85%	85%	85%	90%	90%
	Actual	98%	95%	100%	100%	99%	
4. Complete field telephone and onsite investigations in fewer than 45 business days	Goal	*	85%	85%	85%	90%	85%
	Actual	87%	89%	90%	90%	96%	
5. Sustain the number of onsite investigations	Goal	*	*	*	1,200	1,200	1,577
	Actual	1,223	1,327	1,334	1,523	1,746	
6. Sustain the number of incident reports collected from medical examiners and coroners	Goal	*	2,800	3,600	3,600	3,600	4,161
	Actual	3,880	4,165	3,774	4,514	4,428	
7. Sustain the number of incident reports collected from news clips	Goal	*	5,000	6,000	7,000	7,000	8,097
	Actual	6,942	7,101	8,131	7,870	8,766	

*No goal established.

Maintain the quality of injury data.**1. *Monitoring Hospitals***

Evaluation visits to hospitals in the NEISS sample 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.

Goal: Staff will conduct at least one evaluation visit at each of the almost 100 hospitals in the NEISS sample.

2. *Capturing Product-Related Cases*

A high reporting percentage of product-related cases is necessary to assure the integrity of the data estimates. Remedial action would be instituted in any hospital missing significant numbers of reportable cases.

Goal: The results of the audits in each hospital should indicate that NEISS hospitals are reporting at least 90 percent of the product-related cases.

Identify and investigate product hazards in the field.**3. *Telephone Investigations (Headquarters)***

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 so that they can use the information to support hazard reduction activities.

Goal: Staff will complete at least 90 percent of investigations in fewer than 45 business days.

4. *Telephone/On-site Investigations (Field) - Timeliness*

The field 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.

Goal: Staff will complete at least 85 percent of field investigations in fewer than 45 business days.

5. *On-site Investigations (Field)*

Sustaining the number of onsite investigations will maintain both the timeliness and quality of our information.

Goal: Staff will sustain the number of onsite investigations completed by the field at 1,577.

6. *Medical Examiner/Coroner Reports*

Reports from medical examiners and coroners 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. In 2005, staff reviewed 4,428 reports.

Goal: Staff will sustain the number of medical examiner/coroner reports at 4,161.

7. *News Clips*

CPSC relies on clips from newspapers in all 50 states to identify incidents of special interest in local areas. 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. In 2005, staff reviewed 8,766 incident reports.

Goal: Staff will sustain the number of incident reports from news clips at 8,097 clips.



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, staff will more systematically review and analyze death and injury data and identify areas where staff 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 staff 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.

2006 ANNUAL GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
1. Complete analysis of product areas and other emerging hazard reviews	Goal	*	*	2	4	4	4
	Actual	--	--	2	5	6	
2. Conduct special studies	Goal	*	*	*	1	2	2
	Actual	--	--	0	1	2	
3. Conduct special economic studies	Goal	*	*	*	10	8	8
	Actual	9	19	9	10	8	
4. Respond to petitions	Goal	*	*	*	3	3 ^a	3 ^a
	Actual	5	3	4	5	3	

*No goal established.

--Data not available.

^aThis 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 conducts systematic reviews of injury, incident, death, market and cost data on a variety of product-related hazard areas and conducts 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 assessment are used to identify and evaluate new and existing hazards. In 2005, six reports were completed: Personal Use Items; Home Communication, Entertainment and Hobby Products; Housewares and Kitchen Appliances; Sports Activities and Equipment; Heating, Cooling and Ventilating Equipment; and Miscellaneous Products.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete analysis of 4 product areas and other emerging hazard reviews.

2. *Special Studies*

Staff conducts 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. In 2005, staff completed two special studies: the first on fireworks-related injuries and deaths and the second on fire-related injuries.

Goal: In 2006, staff will conduct 2 special studies.

3. *Special Economic Studies*

Staff conducts 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 and environmental impact; labeling, and recalls. Staff will maintain econometric models through periodic review to assure that methodological approaches and models are current and adequate for CPSC use. In 2005, staff

completed two special studies: the first on fireworks-related injuries and deaths and the second on fire-related injuries.

Goal: In 2006, staff will complete 8 special economic studies.

4. *Petitions*

In 2005, staff prepared 3 briefing packages in response to petitions on sulfuric acid drain openers, all-terrain vehicles, and unit-dose packaging.

Goal: In 2006, staff will prepare 3 briefing packages in response to petitions.

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.

	2004 Estimate*		2005 Actual		2006 Plan	
Activities:	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Data Quality	0.5	\$60	1.7	\$212	2	\$262
Industry Services	15	1,485	15	1,530	14	1,519
Customer Satisfaction	17	2,346	17	2,416	14	2,054
President’s Management Agenda	5	481	5	495	7	809
TOTAL	37.5	\$4,372	38.7	\$4,653	37	\$4,644

* Estimates used because our project reporting system did not cover these cross-program activities.

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.



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, staff will need to determine what problems exist and find data quality tools, policies, and processes to improve these systems.

2006 ANNUAL GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
1. Identify, develop, and implement improvement activities resulting from assessment recommendations	Goal	*	*	*	*	*	2
	Actual	--	--	--	--	--	
2. Conduct data quality planning activities	Goal	*	*	*	1	1	1
	Actual	--	--	0	1	1	
3. Identify, develop, and implement activities for data quality improvement	Goal	*	*	*	2	3	3
	Actual	--	--	0	1	3	

*No goal established. --Data not available.

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

Improvement Plan

Goal: Last year's assessment activities will result in a Barriers and Costs report for improving our initial database

being shared with management. They will choose several tasks to pursue in early 2006. In 2006, an implementation plan describing the improvement tasks and a timeline necessary to implement the selected improvements will be completed soon afterwards.

Implementation Activities

Goal: Improvement tasks on our first database will be implemented starting in 2006. Depending on the tasks selected, the full implementation of all data improvement tasks may not be completed until 2007.

2. Conduct data quality planning activities.

Assessment Plan

Goal: In 2006, staff will develop an assessment plan on our second candidate database. It will detail the assessment tasks, resources to complete those tasks, and a timeline for completion. The completion of this assessment will result in a Barriers and Costs report that will allow management to choose from the improvement tasks based on current resource levels.

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

Baseline Data

Goal: Data quality is being defined by characteristics such as: utility, accuracy, consistency, completeness and security of the database. In 2006, the team will collect several different sources of performance data on the selected second database and its use. Staff will use this data to develop an overall baseline from which staff will investigate possible improvements.

Data Assessment

Goal: In 2006, the team will analyze the baseline data and describe the overall condition of the second 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, objectives that reward productivity over data quality, or inadequate computer software or hardware.

Goal: In 2006, the team will review identified barriers and assess the benefits and costs of performing each suggested improvement. From this review, a list of improvement tasks will be ranked for feasibility and overall need, as warranted.



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 clearly 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.

2006 ANNUAL GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
1. Initiate a recall within 20 days	Goal	90%	90%	90%	95%	95%	90%
	Actual	95%	95%	95%	96%	94%	
2. Respond to requests within 3 business days	Goal	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
	Actual	79%	99%	88%	82%	94%	
3. Develop guidance documents	Goal	10	5	5	5	5	5
	Actual	10	5	7	8	8	

1. *Fast Track Timeliness*

In 2005, Fast Track recalls were initiated within 20 business days 94 percent of the time.

Goal: 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*

In 2005, staff responded to requests from Small Businesses within three business days 94 percent of the time.

Goal: 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*

In 2000, staff began an effort to develop brief guides or other guidance documents for CPSC regulations where most of our compliance efforts have been targeted so that industry could quickly and easily understand how to comply. In 2005, staff posted 8 guides to the CPSC Web site, including the *Handbook for the Manufacturing of Safer Consumer Products*, was updated as part of the Agency's *International Consumer Product Safety Program Plan-China*.

Goal: In 2006, staff will develop five additional guidance documents to explain regulations, other policies, or procedures; or assist industry in complying with CPSC regulations.



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) 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 accident 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.

2006 ANNUAL CUSTOMER SATISFACTION GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<i>CPSC Web Site</i>							
1. CPSC Web site visits (in millions)	Goal	4.0	7.0	8.0	10.0	11.0	18.0
	Actual	6.3	7.9	9.2	11.9	13.7	
<i>Hotline Services (1-800-638-2772)</i>							
2. Respond to voicemail messages the next business day	Goal	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%
	Actual	79%	86%	92%	96%	86%	
3. Process incident reports within 8 working hours	Goal	85%	85%	85%	90%	95%	95%
	Actual	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
<i>National Injury Information Clearinghouse</i>							
4. Mail incident information for verification to consumers within 2 business days	Goal	95% ^a	95% ^a	95%	95%	95%	95%
	Actual	100%	100%	98%	99%	95%	
5. Provide manufacturers with verified incidents and investigations within 48 business days	Goal	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Actual	--	79%	95%	95%	95%	
6. Provide responses to requests within 7 business days	Goal	95% ^b	95%				
	Actual	97%	96%	97%	97%	99%	
<i>State Partners Program</i>							
7. Conduct product safety activities	Goal	50	50	50	150	120	183
	Actual	140	140	287	195	179	
8. Conduct recall checks, inspections, and investigations within 90 days	Goal	*	900	900	740	740	922
	Actual	985	979	924	1,180	916	

*No goal established.

^aGoal was for consumer complaints reported through the hotline only; starting in 2003, staff now include those reported from all sources.

^bGoal was to provide responses to requests within 5 business days for this fiscal year.

1. Web Site Visits

CPSC's Web site (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. 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.

Goal: In 2006, staff anticipates that we will have 18 million visitors to CPSC's Web site.

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, staff evaluates the performance and renews 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, staff received over 3,000 messages from the public through voicemail

Goal: 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. Staff 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% were completed within 8 working hours. Staff use these complaints to look for emerging hazards and to support studies of specific product hazards.

Goal: In 2006, staff will process product incident reports within 8 working hours 95 percent of the time.

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, staff sent nearly 13,000 reports to consumers for verification and 95 percent were completed within two business days.

Goal: In 2006, staff will mail incident report verification information to consumers within 2 business days at least 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, staff mailed over 12,000 reports to manufacturers and 95 percent were completed within 48 business days.

Goal: In 2006, 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 5 business days. In 2005, staff provided responses 99 percent of the time within 5 business days.

Goal: In 2006, staff will provide responses to requests for information within 7 business days at least 95 percent of the time.

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 the Commission's field staff and are done at little or no cost to the Federal Government.

Goal: In 2006, staff will conduct 183 product safety activities including media events, congressional contacts, public information seminars, and safety consultations.

8. *Assignments*

Goal: Staff will conduct at least 922 State Partners recall checks, inspections, and in-depth injury investigations to support CPSC priorities within 90 days of assignment.



PRESIDENT'S MANAGEMENT AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

The President envisions a government that has a citizen-based focus, is results-oriented, and market-based. To improve the functioning of the Federal Government and 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, which allow us to achieve our goals while managing public resources with prudence.

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN CAPITAL

2006 ANNUAL GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
1. Modify the SES appraisal system to include progress toward meeting Results Act goals and the President's Management Agenda	Goal	*	*	*	1	1	1
	Actual	--	--	--	1	1	
2. Identify skill gaps and develop training plans	Goal	*	*	*	*	1	1
	Actual	--	--	--	--	0	
3. Maintain the recruitment process time	Goal	*	62	62	62	62	62
	Actual	65	61	51	60	61	
4. Conduct training for managers in human resource management	Goal	*	2	2	2	1	2
	Actual	0	2	2	3	2	
5. Conduct focus groups of new employees	Goal	*	2	2	2	2	1
	Actual	0	2	2	2	2	
6. Target recruitment efforts to organizations serving under-represented populations	Goal	*	10	10	10	12	12
	Actual	0	11	12	12	14	
7. Conduct training sessions for employees in EEO/AEP responsibilities	Goal	*	3	3	3	3	3
	Actual	0	4	8	10	10	
8. Promote representation of Hispanics and individuals with disabilities	Goal	*	5	5	5	5	5
	Actual	0	6	7	12	13	
9. Develop and implement the Training Plan	Goal	*	*	**	1	1	1
	Actual	--	--	--	1	0	
10. Identify and promote low/no-cost training	Goal	*	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, staff revised the elements and standards for the remainder of the employees.

Goal: In 2006, staff will monitor the use of the SES performance elements and standards and implement the modified elements and standards for the remainder of the employees.

2. *Skills Analyses*

In 2004, staff developed competencies for mission critical positions.

Goal: In 2006, staff will identify skill gaps and develop training plans for the mission critical positions to assure staff has well-qualified individuals performing the strategic mission of the agency. Additionally, in 2006, staff will develop a succession plan to ensure continued development of current employees as well as targeted recruitment for mission critical positions.

3. *Recruitment Time*

The recruitment process time is calculated as the difference in the number of days between the recruitment request and the candidate selection date. The average recruitment process time was 61 days for 2005. This number is below the 2002 government average of 102 days and a reduction from the 1999 average process time of 72 days.

Goal: Staff will maintain the recruitment process time at 62 days.

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. Staff will contact 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 Federal Equal Opportunity Recruitment Plan.

8. *Promote Representation*

Goal: Staff will promote representation of Hispanics and individuals with disabilities with at least 5 initiatives. Examples of these new initiatives are mentoring programs, student summer hires, employee training programs, and disability and diversity awareness programs.

9. *Training Plan*

In 2004, the Director of Human Resources developed a draft coordinated training plan for the agency. In 2005, the agency began implementation of the plan. This multi-year plan consists of benchmarks, such as defining and identifying core positions, designing training plans for some of the core positions; and identifying common agency training needs.

Goal: In 2006, staff will continue with the implementation and monitor the use of the agency’s training plan.

10. *Low/No-Cost Training*

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

COMPETITIVE SOURCING

2006 ANNUAL GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
12. Review and revise the annual Fair Act Inventory as appropriate	Goal	*	*	1	1	1	1
	Actual	1	1	1	1	1	
13. Complete performance work statements and cost statements for activities in the Fair Act Inventory annually	Goal	*	*	*	20%	20%	20%
	Actual	--	--	--	0%	0%	
14. Complete competitions for activities in the Fair Act Inventory	Goal	*	*	*	*	20%	20%
	Actual	--	--	--	--	0%	

*No goal established.

--Data not available.

12. *FAIR Act Inventories*

Staff have published an inventory as required by the *Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act (FAIR)* each year since 1999.

Staff reviewed all positions in the agency. We find that the majority of CSPC employees are engaged in the governmental public safety function of investigating product hazards and developing product standards.

Staff currently contract for most of our commercial services. For example, CPSC contracts for mail and driver services, laborer services, and copy and library services. Staff also contract for our consumer hotline operation, data screening for NEISS, and much of our computer programming and help desk operations. In addition, staff contract for specialized commercial reviews, such as bankruptcy experts, during the course of our investigations. Staff also contract out for operations of various major administrative systems such as payroll, finance, human resources, and procurement. Staff estimates that these contracts represent the equivalent of 50 FTEs already contracted out.

In our 2005 inventory, staff 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).

Goal: In 2006 and 2007, staff will review and revise the FAIR Act inventory, as appropriate.

13. *Performance Statements*

In 2004, staff began developing agency procedures to implement revised OMB Circular A-76. Staff expects to complete these procedures in 2006.

Goal: Through 2006, staff will complete performance work statements and cost statements for at least 20 percent of the activities in our FAIR Act inventory.

14. *Competition*

In 2004, staff began developing agency procedures to implement revised OMB Circular A-76.

Goal: Staff expects to complete these procedures in 2006. Through 2006, staff plans to complete competitions following these procedures for a total of at least 20 percent of the activities in our FAIR Act inventory.

IMPROVED FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**2006 ANNUAL GOALS**

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
15. Monitor financial management systems that meet Federal requirements and standards (Letter of Assurance)	Goal	*	*	*	1	1	1
	Actual	1	1	1	1	1	
16. Implement a data warehouse capability	Goal	*	*	*	1	1	1
	Actual	--	--	--	0	1	
17. Reduce or maintain the number of business days after month-end to produce monthly financial reports	Goal	*	*	*	3	3	3
	Actual	5	5	3	3	3	

*No goal established.

--Data not available.

15. *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.

Goal: In 2006, staff will continue to monitor the system to ensure continued compliance with all applicable Federal regulations and standards. This will be documented in the staff annual letter of assurance.

16. *Data Warehouse Capability*

The 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, staff pilot-tested this capability. In 2005, CPSC trained allowance holder staff in other CPSC offices.

Goal: If funding for software license fees is secured, we will fully implement this warehouse capability in 2006 or 2007.

17. Information Timeliness

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

Goal: In 2006, staff will evaluate reporting needs in order to improve on-demand access to financial information.

EXPANDED ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT**2006 ANNUAL GOALS**

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

*No goal established.

--Data not available.

18. Government-To-Citizen

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 2004, staff implemented an on-line FOIA request form for use by the public. In addition to making a request using this form, the public can also access additional FOIA information through CPSC's Web site. However, this FOIA information is currently not always easy to find because of the quantity of information available. In 2005, staff launched the FOIA form for use by the public.

Goal: In 2006, we will fully implement the FOIA form for use by the public.

19. *Government-To-Business*

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 (FR) notices on the Web site because of the large number of regulations and notices available. In 2004, staff introduced a regulation retrieval system to allow visitors to retrieve regulatory information by specific products. Under the CPSC Flammable Fabrics Act, manufacturers are required to update their information periodically. To date, this has been done using a hard-copy paper system. In 2005 staff developed and launched a new Voluntary Standard link on the www.cpsc.gov home page, making it easier for businesses to research and view Voluntary Standards activities involving consumer products.

Goal: In 2006, staff plans to develop and introduce an on-line filing system for manufacturers as an alternative to the paper system.

20. *Government-To-Government*

Government-to-government initiatives will enable sharing and integration of federal, state, and local data. Recently completed CPSC initiatives include the www.recalls.gov website, 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 – completed in 2003; (2) an XML-based news feed that provides media and web masters with the latest CPSC recall notices within minutes of their release, completed in 2004; and an application that enables CPSC's state partners to electronically report recall effectiveness information that they provide us under contract, completed in 2004. In 2005 staff improved www.recalls.gov which will make it easier for participating agencies to enter their recall information.

Goal: In 2006, staff will continue dialogue with participating Agencies to find ways to improve this Web site.

21. *Internal Efficiency and Effectiveness*

Internal Efficiency and Effectiveness initiatives bring 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, staff began implementation of our Business Continuity Plan (BCP), a requirement under the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA), which includes a disaster recovery plan. Implementation of the disaster recovery plan began in 2004.

Goal: In 2006, staff will continue to implement one of the BCP's recommended security actions.

Budget and Performance Integration

2006 ANNUAL GOALS

Annual Goals Summary		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
22. Perform program evaluations	Goal	7	7	8	7	8	6
	Actual	5	4	8	5	6	

22. Program Evaluations

Staff believe that our annual budget and performance plans make the agency performance-oriented by showing progress achieved on our hazard reduction goals, quality and management goals. For continued improvement, however, staff must evaluate our programs. Staff 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. Staff 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 our 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. Staff derives 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

- 2001: Evaluated changes to fire-related death data from the revised coding system
- 2002: Tracked fireworks-related deaths
- 2003: Tracked fire-related deaths
- 2003: Tracked fireworks-related deaths
- 2004: Tracked fire-related deaths
- 2004: Tracked 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

- 2001: Evaluated changes to CO-poisoning data from the revised coding system
- 2003: Tracked CO deaths

2004: Tracked CO deaths
2005: Program evaluation of CO poisoning deaths
2005: Tracking of CO deaths
2006: Tracking of CO deaths
2007: Tracking of CO deaths

C. Assessments by Industry

2001: Fast-Track, Ombudsman
2004: Fast-Track
2005: Ombudsman (Carryover from 2004)
2007: Fast-Track, Ombudsman

D. Customer Satisfaction

2002: Hotline, Clearinghouse, State Partners
2005: Hotline, Clearinghouse, State Partners, Web Site
2006: Clearinghouse (Carryover from 2005), State Partners
2007: Hotline

Table A
Schedule of Evaluations

Strategic Goals	Issues	General Scope	Procedures	
			Method	Time
Hazards 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
Customer/Industry Services 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
Critical Management 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 Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).

VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION

This section describes the means by which staff 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 in 2006. Staff provide a complete list of performance measures with corresponding databases and verification procedures in Table C. Staff also provide further descriptions separately for: (A) reducing product-related injuries and deaths for each of the three core functions (Safety Standards, Compliance, and Consumer Information), (B) identifying product hazards and (c) service quality/customer satisfaction goals.

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 by hazard area.*

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

Database: The Press Release (PRE) database records all press releases issued by the Commission by hazard area. The press releases are placed on our Web site the day they are issued.

Verification: Check a random sample of press releases for written descriptions 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 request 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: 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 B
Verification and Validation of Performance Measures for Annual Goals

Type of Performance Measure	Performance Measure	Database	Verification/Validation
Results-Oriented Goals			
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	Number of releases	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
Service Quality			
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
Industry Services			
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
Consumer Satisfaction			
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 (<http://www.cpsc.gov/LIBRARY/FOIA/FOIA02/os/Costmodept1.pdf>).

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

Staff 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 this area:

- Identification and analysis of hazards

B. Capital Assets / Capital Programming

We have two major recurring capital asset acquisitions planned in support of our performance goals -- continued investments in information technology (IT) and the modernization of our laboratory. 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, 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, staff determined that staff had a weakness in our internal controls over automated information security and its operation. Staff hired a full-time IT security official and addressed all major weaknesses by the end of 2004.

Staff does not have any major problems of fraud and mismanagement in our programs and operations. Staff 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.

Staff 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, staff 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 2006, the final appropriation for the agency is \$62,370,000 with a staff level of 440 Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) nationwide. 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 the Commission 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. Staff 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.

VOLUNTARY STANDARDS SUMMARY

Fire/Gas Codes and Standards	1	Candles
	2	Emergency Escape Masks
	3	Fire Sprinklers
	4	Turkey Fryers
	5	Fuel Cells
Electrical Codes and Standards	6	Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters
	7	Batteries
	8	Fans, Portable
	9	Heaters, Fixed Electric
	10	Smoke Alarms
	11	Surge Suppressors
Electrocutions	12	Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupters
	13	National Electric Code
Children's Products	14	Bath Seats
	15	Infant Tubs
	16	Inflatable Pools
	17	Pools/Spas
	18	Suction Release Devices
	19	Swimming Pool Alarms
	20	Baby Bouncers
	21	Baby Gates
	22	Baby Swings
	23	Baby Walkers
	24	Bassinets/Cradles
	25	Bed Rails
	26	Beds, Toddler
	27	Blind Cords
	28	Booster Seats
	29	Bunk Beds
	30	Changing Tables, Diaper
	31	Cribs
	32	Cribs, Commercial
	33	High Chairs
	34	Infant Bedding and Accessories
	35	Infant Carriers
	36	Infant Carriers, Frame
	37	Infant Carriers, Soft
	38	Playground Equipment, Children Younger than 2 Years
	39	Playground Equipment, Home
	40	Playground Equipment, Public
	41	Playground Equipment, Soft
	42	Playground Surfacing
	43	Play Yards
	44	Strollers

	45	Toy Safety
Carbon Monoxide	46	Alarms, CO
	47	Portable Generators (Engine Driven Tools)
	48	Vented Gas Appliances, CO Sensors
Poison Prevention	49	Child Resistant Packaging
	50	Gasoline Containers
Chemical Hazards	51	CCA
	52	FR Chemicals
	53	Lead in Jewelry
Household and Recreation	54	All-Terrain Vehicles
	55	Amusement Rides, Portable
	56	Bicycles
	57	Garage Door & Gate Operators
	58	Helmets, Recreational
	59	Hot Tubs/Spas
	60	Ladders
	61	Mowers, Ride-on
	62	Paintball Guns
	63	Paper Shredders
	64	Saws, Table & Portable Circular
	65	Scooters, Motorized
	66	Tree Stands, Hunting

MANDATORY STANDARDS SUMMARY

Fire/Gas Codes and Standards	1	Bedclothes
	2	Carpet Standard (technical amendment)
	3	Cigarette Lighters
	4	Clothing Textile Standard (amendment)
	5	Mattresses - Cigarette Ignition
	6	Mattress - Open Flame Ignition
	7	Upholstered Furniture
Children's Products	8	Baby Bath Seats
	9	Bed Rails
	10	Cribs (slat integrity)
Household and Recreation	11	ATVs

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