

LOG OF MEETING

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared
11/29/95
Products Identified
Ex. 101
Firms Notified
Comments Processed

SUBJECT: Extension Cord Fire Safety

DATE: November 8, 1995 ✓ **PLACE:** Room 612
East West Towers

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: November 8, 1995

SOURCE OF LOG ENTRY: William H. King, Jr., ESEE

CPSC PARTICIPANTS:

William H. King, Jr., ESEE
Aaron Banerjee, ESEE

NON-CPSC PARTICIPANTS:

Owen Jackson, Technology Research Corporation
Christopher Barton, Product Safety Letter

SUMMARY:

Mr. Owen Jackson requested this meeting with the CPSC staff to acquaint them with the progress associated with a product that his company has developed. The product is a specially fabricated electrical power cord that is provided with integral electronic protection to open the circuit in the event of cord insulation failure the could present a potential fire hazard. Mr. Jackson reported that the product could be configured into an extension cord for general use or into an appliance cord for specific application.

Mr. Jackson reported that his product has recently completed a safety investigation by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL) and a new UL classification has been established for the listing. Mr. Jackson further indicated that products and product literature should be available in early 1996.

Mr. Jackson inquired about CPSC support for the use of this type of product. Mr. King indicated that the CPSC technical staff would welcome the receipt of new safety material but could not make any commitment with regard to staff support for the use of the product at this time. Mr. King further indicated that the CPSC encourages the development of improved, safer products, and would like to become familiar with the technical details of the Technology Research Corporation developments in this area. Mr. Jackson indicated that his company would provide such information when it becomes available including a sample of the product, the UL listing information and report, and product specifications.

In response to a question, Mr. Jackson indicated that a protected extension cord may increase the cost of a similar

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extension cord without the added protection by a factor of 3-4, and that the principles of the protection are based on GFCI technology.

Mr. Jackson provided a copy of a paper entitled "Fires of Electrical Origin" by Raymond H. Legatti, dated 9/19/95, and a letter to UL from his company dated September 26, 1995. Copies attached.