

**LOG OF MEETING**

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared  
No. 111  
Products identified  
Excepted by  
Firms Notified,  
Concepts Processed

**SUBJECT:** Clothes Dryer Design Review by Whirlpool Corporation

**DATE:** July 9, 1998

**PLACE:** Whirlpool Corp.  
2000 North M-63  
Benton Harbor  
MI 49022-2692

**DATE OF LOG ENTRY:** July 17, 1998

**SOURCE OF LOG ENTRY:** Sheela Kadambi, ESEE 

**CPSC PARTICIPANTS:**

Sheela Kadambi, ESEE

**NON-CPSC PARTICIPANTS:**

Whirlpool Corp. staff including:  
Dr. Richard C. Seib, Director Product Safety  
Larry D. Latack, Manager Product Safety Department  
Joe Gauer, Director Design Support  
Curt Riechman, Laboratory Manager  
Lucinda O'Tousch, Senior Home Economist  
Ann Ollis, Senior Engineer  
Bob Small, Project Engineer  
Kim Cuyler, Tech II  
Ron Summer, Tech III

**SUMMARY:**

After a formal visit to the administrative center of the Whirlpool Corporation, Dr. Seib guided a tour of their burn test facility. The meeting continued at Whirlpool's Technology Center where Ms. O'Tousch presented the operation and Ms. Ollis the design and construction of electric and gas clothes dryers. Ms. Ollis explained in detail the design of various models of dryers to the component level, including the control system circuit diagrams. Further, she demonstrated the temperature variations in the dryer at different levels of air flow in the exhaust system. This led to the discussion of the importance of keeping the airflow system clear from lint collection. Videos of flammability properties of lint and the phenomenon of spontaneous combustion of material soaked in vegetable oil were presented. Ms. Cuyler and Mr. Small walked through their test and product safety approval process. The meeting was concluded with the review of design enhancements over a period of twenty years and a visit to their consumer assistance center.

