



1998
ANNUAL
REPORT
TO CONGRESS



United States
Consumer Product
Safety Commission



Ann Brown
Chairman



Thomas H. Moore
Vice-Chairman

1998



Mary Sheila Gall
Commissioner

Dear Members of Congress.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is pleased to submit its report for fiscal year 1998.

As an independent federal agency, CPSC helps keep families—especially children—safe in their homes, schools, in recreation and in other places by overseeing the safety of 15,000 types of consumer products. To reduce injuries and deaths associated with these products, CPSC identifies and analyzes product hazards, helps industry to develop voluntary safety standards for products, monitors compliance with voluntary standards, issues and enforces mandatory standards, obtains voluntary recalls of dangerous products from the marketplace, and informs the public of potential product risks.

This year, CPSC marked its 25th anniversary. Anniversaries are important milestones that give us the chance to look at both where we've been and where we're going. In creating CPSC in 1973, Congress charged it with the mission of saving lives and preventing injuries associated with products American families use every day.

Over the past 25 years, CPSC has achieved results. The rate of deadly injury associated with consumer products has fallen by 30 percent. Through our work on electrocutions, children's poisonings, children's cribs, power mowers and fire safety, CPSC has saved the nation more than \$10 billion annually in health care, property damage and other societal costs—more than 200 times our annual budget!

This year, CPSC worked with industry to obtain 273 corrective actions involving about 36.6 million consumer product units. About 120 of these actions were toys and children's products, involving more than 6 million product units. More than 100 firms participated in the Fast Track Product Recall Program to speed up the recall of hazardous products. In October 1998, the program was honored with the Innovations in American Government Award.

In addition, CPSC filed administrative lawsuits against two companies to get dangerous products off the market. These were the first such lawsuits filed by CPSC in nearly 10 years.

The following pages explain in detail CPSC's work in fiscal year 1998, which helped reduce injuries and save lives. As Chairman, and with my esteemed colleagues Vice-Chairman Thomas Hill Moore and Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall, we will see that CPSC continues to share the responsibility of product safety with our product-safety partners, industry and the American public.

Sincerely,



Ann Brown



Message from the President

Congratulations to the men and women of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission as you celebrate your agency's 25th anniversary.

Protecting the safety and well-being of our citizens, especially our children, is our highest priority as a people and as a nation. Every day, the dedicated men and women of the CPSC are on the job, working to prevent injuries associated with consumer products. You fulfill a vital public health and safety mission, and your efforts have made a positive difference to the life of our nation for the past 25 years.

Under the leadership of Chairman Ann Brown, the CPSC continues to be a visible and effective force for keeping America's families safe. As you mark this milestone, I want to express my appreciation, and that of a grateful nation, for your lasting achievements and for helping to make America a better place for our children. Keep up the good work!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Clinton".

Bill Clinton

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CPSC Highlights

Poison Prevention

The Commission issued a final rule requiring child-resistant packaging for certain household products containing elemental fluoride (e g., rust removers, toilet/metal cleaners, and etching products), because they can cause serious injury and illness in children under five years old. The Commission also modified an existing exemption for oral prescription drugs with sodium fluoride to be consistent with the special packaging requirement. Most dental products do not contain enough fluoride to be included in this rule

Imported Fireworks Surveillance

CPSC and the U.S. Customs Service selectively sampled 540 shipments of fireworks. Out of the total number of shipments, 144 violated CPSC's mandatory safety requirements. More than 19 million units presented violations serious enough to warrant seizure or other action by CPSC and the U.S. Customs Service.

Baby Walkers

CPSC worked actively with industry to strengthen the ASTM voluntary safety standard for baby walkers to address stair falls. New walkers with safety features were available to consumers in 1998. Without the new requirements, baby walker injuries were projected to have increased to as many as 32,000 emergency room-treated injuries in the year 2002. With CPSC's work in getting the new standard in place, injuries are expected to decrease to fewer than 10,000 per year by 2002.

Fast Track Product Recall Program

In 1995, CPSC began a Fast Track Product Recall Program to speed up the recall of hazardous products. This program gets dangerous products off of store shelves faster, and most importantly gets more unsafe products out of people's homes. In fiscal year 1998, more than 100 firms participated in the program, resulting in 117 corrective action plans involving more than 16 million product units. In October 1998, the Fast Track Product Recall Program won the prestigious Innovations in American Government award, an awards program of the Ford Foundation and Harvard University, administered by Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government in partnership with the Council of Excellence in Government.

Recall Round-Up

For the second year in a row, CPSC successfully conducted a nationwide Recall Round-Up Campaign to get dangerous products out of consumers' homes. The purpose of Recall Round-Up is to publicize previously recalled consumer products and urge people to remove them from their homes. The campaign primarily focuses on products that present a danger to children, such as cribs and playpens. There was a 40 percent increase in state and local participants over the previous year. Hundreds of health and safety agencies, thousands of state and local officials, national and grassroots organizations, and many businesses participated.

Recall Litigation

Nearly all recalls of hazardous products are conducted voluntarily by firms. However, where appropriate, CPSC compels recalls through administrative litigation. In 1998, CPSC filed administrative lawsuits against Black & Decker Inc. and Central Sprinkler Co. CPSC staff alleged one model of Black & Decker's under-the-counter toaster ovens was defective and a substantial product hazard. CPSC staff also alleged Central's Omega series of sprinklers were defective and a substantial product hazard. Both cases were settled and recalls were conducted of both products.

New Radio and Video Access

During 1998, CPSC installed a new audio system to allow local radio stations nationwide to access information about recalls. The audio soundbites can be accessed by using a toll-free telephone line. Radio stations can use the audio of a CPSC spokesperson discussing various recalls as part of their local broadcasts. Also, consumers accessing CPSC's web site can now download portions of some video news releases that vividly show product hazards.

CPSC Activities

To reduce injuries and deaths associated with the 15,000 types of consumer products under its jurisdiction, CPSC identifies and analyzes product hazards, helps industry to develop voluntary safety standards for products, monitors compliance with voluntary standards, issues and enforces mandatory standards, obtains recalls of dangerous products from the marketplace, and informs the public of potential product risks.

CPSC carries out its mission chiefly through the following activities: hazard identification and reduction, enforcement and compliance, field investigations, and public information programs.

Hazard Identification and Reduction

To identify hazardous products and to design effective strategies that reduce these hazards and improve consumer safety, CPSC studies and investigates deaths, injuries, diseases, and economic losses associated with consumer products.

Data Collection: National Electronic Injury Surveillance System

Through the agency's National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS), a statistically-selected national sample of hospital emergency rooms, CPSC collects information on product-related injuries. In 1998, NEISS continued to provide the foundation for much of the Commission's work, including special studies of injuries associated with fireworks and skiing.

The NEISS system has been a model for similar systems in Great Britain, Australia and Japan. The European Community also recently implemented an injury-reporting system modeled specifically after NEISS.

Studies

All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)

In 1998, CPSC completed exposure and injury surveys and a risk analysis on ATVs. These studies describe the current hazard and usage patterns that were compared to similar CPSC studies from the late 1980s. The results of these studies indicated that efforts to address the injuries and deaths to children who ride adult-sized ATVs must continue. Further, the studies confirmed the need to train inexperienced drivers, and for dealers to sell adult-sized ATVs only for the use of persons 16 years of age and over.

Anthropometric Data

The 1977 CPSC report, *Anthropometry of Infants, and Youths to Age 18 for Product Safety Design*, is recognized throughout the world as the most comprehensive data on children's dimensions. These data are used by CPSC to support standards development and product safety assessment efforts. In addition, manufacturers, researchers and other government agencies rely on these data. In 1998, CPSC completed a study to determine whether the data are still valid. The analysis showed no statistically significant differences in children's body sizes over the years. On the basis of this study, CPSC determined that further proposed research in this area was not necessary.

Lead in Children's Toys

In 1998, CPSC completed a study of lead and cadmium in children's polyvinyl chloride (PVC) products. CPSC tested a number of children's products to evaluate the potential for children being exposed to lead and cadmium, and the risk created by that exposure. CPSC determined these PVC products did not contain hazardous levels of lead or cadmium and, therefore, did not present a risk of lead or cadmium poisoning to children. CPSC issued a lead policy statement and asked all manufacturers to eliminate the use of lead that could be accessible to children from products used in or around households, schools or in recreation.

Sports-Related Injuries to Persons 65 and Older

CPSC conducted a study, through NEISS, of sports-related injuries to persons 65 years of age and older. The study found that from 1990 to 1996, sports-related injuries to those 65 and older increased by 54 percent. This increase in injuries is most likely attributable to increasingly active lifestyles and to increased participation in sports activities by older Americans.

NEISS All Trauma Study

In 1998, CPSC completed a special study of the capability of the NEISS to collect all trauma injury reports. For three months, 21 NEISS hospitals reported all injuries treated in their hospital emergency department. The study demonstrated that the NEISS can be used to capture all emergency room treated injuries. During the study period, consumer product-related injuries comprised about half the trauma cases with work-related, motor vehicle and intentional violence making up the other largest categories.

Plastic Materials Used in Portable Electric Appliances

A CPSC study of the flammability of portable electric appliance enclosures was completed in 1998. The study tested plastic materials from products purchased in the market place which were similar to products identified in actual fire incidents. Proposals to upgrade these materials to help prevent future fires were submitted to Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

Soft Bedding Link to Infant Deaths

According to a study conducted by CPSC and published in the June 1998 issue of the American Medical Association's *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine*, soft bedding should not be placed under infants, regardless of the way they are placed to sleep, because it has the potential to cover their noses and mouths, blocking their airways. CPSC recommends placing babies to sleep on their backs, the preferred sleep position of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Mandatory Standards

Poison Prevention

The Commission finalized a rule to require child-resistant packaging for certain household products containing elemental fluoride (e.g., rust removers, toilet/metal cleaners, and etching products) because they can cause serious injury and illness in children under five years old. Most dental products do not contain enough fluoride to be included in this rule.

Bicycle Helmets - Final Rule

The Children's Bicycle Helmet Safety Act of 1994 directed the Commission to develop a mandatory safety standard for bicycle helmets. That legislation further required that the standard include a provision addressing the risk of a helmet coming off the rider's head during a crash, as well as provisions addressing the risks of injury to children.

In December 1995, the Commission published a proposed bicycle helmet standard in the Federal Register. In 1997, the staff completed testing and analysis to address technical issues regarding the design of the test apparatus. The staff also completed additional analysis on the issue of special provisions for bicycle helmets for children age 5 and under. The results of this work were used to draft a CPSC bicycle helmet standard. The Commission voted to approve the final standard in February 1998. The standard, which becomes effective in March 1999, includes requirements for impact reduction, chin-strap strength, additional helmet stability, and added head protection for children age 5 and under.

Voluntary Standards

To help create safer products in the marketplace, and to help reduce the cost to the federal government for developing and maintaining its own safety standards, CPSC provides technical support to the development of selected voluntary safety standards. In 1998, CPSC provided technical support for 50 voluntary standards projects, and 21 new, revised or reaffirmed standards/guides were completed.

Fire and Electrical Hazards

Extension Cords

At the urging of CPSC, Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) issued consolidated safety guidelines for household indoor extension cords. These consolidated guidelines will make it easier for manufacturers, importers, distributors and retailers to identify substandard cords.

Fire Safety Products

In response to CPSC recommendations, ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) began development of new standards for fire blankets and portable fire escape ladders, both of which are relatively new products marketed to consumers to deal with residential fires.

National Electrical Code

The *National Electrical Code*, 1999 edition, was adopted in May 1998 and incorporated several significant improvements supported by CPSC. The code now requires an emergency shutoff switch accessible to the users of spas and hot tubs to shut off the system in the event of an entrapment incident. A provision was added to require receptacle outlets in bedrooms of homes to be protected with *arc-fault circuit interrupters*, relatively new electronic devices designed to reduce the risk of electrical fires.

Halogen Torchiere Floor Lamps

At the urging of CPSC, the UL standard for lamps was upgraded. The upgraded standard includes new performance requirements for torchiere-style floor lamps with tubular halogen bulbs to guard against ignition of nearby household materials.

Mechanical Hazards

Gate Operators

CPSC worked to revise the UL voluntary standard for gate operators to incorporate new provisions to address entrapments. Gate operators are devices used to open and close automatic driveway gates.

Motorized Fun Karts

CPSC participated in the development of two ASTM standards to address the injuries associated with fun-karts (a type of go-cart). In 1998, ASTM approved safety standards on guidelines for consumer use and on performance requirements for fun karts.

Chemical Hazards

Camping Heaters

During 1998, based on testing performed by CPSC, requirements for a stringent voluntary test methodology which will limit carbon monoxide (CO) emissions from portable camping heaters were approved for adoption in the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standard. CO poisoning can occur when portable camping heaters are used in enclosed spaces such as tents and campers.

Children's Hazards

Baby Walkers

CPSC worked actively with industry to strengthen the ASTM voluntary safety standard for baby walkers to address stair falls. More children are injured with baby walkers than with any other nursery product. Walkers have been involved in 34 deaths since 1973. New walkers with safety features were available to consumers in 1998. Without the new requirements, baby walker injuries were projected to have increased to as many as 32,000 emergency room-treated injuries in the year 2002. With CPSC's work in getting the new standard in place, injuries are expected to decrease to fewer than 10,000 per year by 2002.

Furniture

At the urging of CPSC, a new safety standard was developed by ASTM to address deaths and injuries to young children that occur as a result of dressers and chests of drawers falling on them. The new standard has a stability requirement for these types of furniture.

Conferences

Mattress and Bedclothes Fires Roundtable

In February 1998, CPSC sponsored a meeting to discuss the problem of open flame ignitions of mattresses and bedclothes. While fire deaths associated with cigarette ignition of these products have declined, the same is not true for open flame ignitions. The meeting participants, including manufacturers, trade associations, fire service personnel, consumer representatives, research and test laboratories, and other Federal agencies, discussed possible strategies to address the fire deaths. As a result, the industry's Sleep Products Safety Council agreed to sponsor research to investigate the development of a possible test method that might be used as a basis for a performance standard. Several participants also agreed to work toward a public education program to inform consumers about the risks of open flame ignition of mattresses and bedclothes.

Upholstered Furniture Public Hearing

CPSC continued to study fire hazards related to upholstered furniture, including analysis of data collected regarding flame retardant (FR) chemicals that could be used to meet a flammability standard. Following a Commission vote to defer regulatory action, CPSC held a public hearing in May 1998 to discuss the potential for toxic health effects associated with FR chemicals, and related issues such as worker safety and environmental considerations. Government representatives from the United States and the United Kingdom, industry and other interested parties presented testimony on toxicological and scientific research related to FR chemicals.

International Activities

CPSC's involvement in international activities during fiscal year 1998 had three goals:

- to ensure that consumer products imported into the U.S. are safe,
- to encourage mutually acceptable consumer product safety standards and conformity among nations worldwide, and
- to remain abreast of scientific advances through sharing information and expertise.

CPSC continued its involvement in developing internationally harmonized chemical test methods, classification systems and labeling. These efforts aimed at ensuring that harmonized standards will meet current U.S. levels of product safety for consumers.

Enforcement and Compliance Activities

To reduce unreasonable risks of injury and death associated with consumer products, CPSC has the authority to take a variety of actions against hazardous products that fail to comply with mandatory safety standards or that present a substantial risk of injury to consumers. Where it finds violative or defective products that present a significant risk of injury to the public, it seeks corrective action through repair or replacement of the product, or through refund of the product's purchase price. CPSC also informs and educates regulated industries of existing standards and how to meet them. These cooperative efforts help minimize future consumer exposure to products that may be hazardous.

In fiscal year 1998, CPSC obtained 273 corrective actions involving about 36.6 million consumer product units that either violated mandatory safety standards or presented a substantial risk of injury to the public. The following are just a few examples.

- About 800,000 car seats/carriers were recalled in conjunction with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration because a handle latch can unexpectedly release and cause the seat to flip forward, causing the child to fall.
- Approximately 390,000 children's sleepwear sets were recalled because they did not meet the children's sleepwear flammability standards and present a fire hazard.
- More than 1 million cigarette lighters were recalled because they lacked child resistant features and can present a fire hazard.
- About 250,000 high-temperature plastic vent pipes used in furnaces and boilers were recalled because they could crack or separate, posing a risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Over 300,000 electrical surge protectors, extension cords and power strips were recalled because of electrocution and fire hazards.
- More than 1.8 million Christmas lights were recalled because of electrocution and fire hazards.
- About 1.2 million detail sanders were recalled due to a faulty switch which can lead to a fire hazard.
- More than 1.7 million candles in glass containers were recalled because of a flare up fire hazard.
- About 670,000 flying dolls were recalled because their wings can break off, causing serious eye injuries.

Toys and children's products continue to be among CPSC's prime concerns. The 273 corrective actions obtained in fiscal year 1998 included 120 different toys and children's products involving about 6 million product units. Most toy recalls were for the following reasons: the toys for children under 3 years of age had small parts that presented a choking hazard; the toys had paint containing lead levels that were dangerous for children; or the toys otherwise presented a substantial risk of injury to children.

Import Surveillance

CPSC and the U.S. Customs Service continued their cooperative efforts to identify and prevent hazardous consumer products from entering the U.S. The dockside surveillance of consumer products imported to the U.S. plays a major role in CPSC's compliance program. Hazardous products that violate mandatory safety standards are stopped at the ports of entry so they never reach consumers. Working together, CPSC and the U.S. Customs Service refused admission into the U.S. or detained for reconditioning or destruction nearly 400 shipments of imported consumer products that did not meet U.S. safety standards. As a result, about 20.5 million dangerous product units that violated CPSC safety standards never reached store shelves. CPSC's and the U.S. Customs Service's import surveillance program:

- prevents injuries and deaths;
- motivates manufacturers and importers to comply with safety regulations; and
- ensures that foreign manufacturers receive the same scrutiny for safety as domestic manufacturers, leveling the competitive playing field

CPSC's safety standard requiring child resistance in disposable and some novelty cigarette lighters became effective in July 1994. CPSC and the U.S. Customs Service continue to closely enforce these requirements. In 1998, CPSC and the U.S. Customs Service prevented approximately 400,000 noncomplying lighters from entering the country.

To determine the level of compliance with fireworks regulations, CPSC targeted imported fireworks. CPSC and the U.S. Customs Service selectively sampled 540 shipments of fireworks. Out of the total number of shipments, 144 violated CPSC's mandatory safety requirements. More than 19 million units presented violations serious enough to warrant seizure or other action by CPSC and the U.S. Customs Service to prevent entry of the shipments into the U.S. The level of substantial compliance with the fireworks regulations has reached 73 percent for targeted imported fireworks. CPSC is continuing its efforts to ensure that fireworks comply with agency regulations.

CPSC and the U.S. Customs Service also targeted toys and rugs. The U.S. Customs Service also alerted CPSC to a number of shipments of hazardous electrical products.

Enforcing Product Regulations

CPSC conducted more than 402 inspections of U.S. manufacturing, importing and retail establishments involved with products subject to the agency's mandatory requirements. During these domestic inspections and import surveillance activities, CPSC collected samples of approximately 1,900 different products to determine compliance with mandatory requirements. The agency targeted products it believed might violate safety standards, including fireworks, toys, wearing apparel, cigarette lighters, household chemicals and medications requiring child-resistant packaging.

CPSC found that about 51 percent (almost 1,000) of the products it sampled violated agency regulations. Working with the U.S. Customs Service, CPSC prevented more than 20 million products from entering the U.S. These inspections also resulted in 60 recalls involving 26 million product units, including cigarette lighters, flammable garments, fireworks and toys.

Corrective Actions Under Section 15 of the Consumer Product Safety Act and the Federal Hazardous Substances Act

Of the 273 corrective actions in 1998, 213 dealt with product hazards not addressed by mandatory standards. This resulted in the recall, repair, replacement, refund or prospective design change to 34 million units of consumer products. These products included children's garments, gas grills, bunk beds, electrical appliances, recreational products, electric fans, infant carriers, lawn and garden tractors and bikes.

Civil Penalties

In addition to the many corrective actions involving various consumer products, CPSC obtained civil penalty settlements totaling more than \$1.4 million in nine separate matters.

These settlements covered CPSC allegations that companies knowingly 1) failed to properly report defects in products that could create a substantial risk of injury, or that presented an unreasonable risk of serious injury or death, as required under section 15(b) of the Consumer Product Safety Act, or 2) violated mandatory safety requirements.

Fast Track Product Recall Program

In 1995, CPSC began a Fast Track Product Recall Program to speed up the recall of hazardous products. When firms report possible product hazards to CPSC and begin a recall within 20 working days, the CPSC staff does not make a preliminary determination of hazard. This program has sped up corrective actions, and most importantly, removed more unsafe consumer products from the marketplace. In fiscal year 1998, more than 100 firms participated in the program, resulting in 117 corrective action plans involving more than 16 million product units. In October 1998, the Fast Track Product Recall Program won the prestigious Innovations in American Government award, an awards program of the Ford Foundation and Harvard University, administered by Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government in partnership with the Council of Excellence in Government. The program previously received a "Hammer" Award from Vice President Al Gore, head of the President's National Partnership for Reinventing Government.

Litigation

Nearly all recalls of hazardous products are conducted voluntarily by firms. However, where appropriate, CPSC compels recalls through administrative litigation. In 1998, CPSC filed administrative lawsuits against Black & Decker Inc. and Central Sprinkler Co. CPSC staff alleged one of Black & Decker's under-the-counter toaster ovens was defective. Food could ignite inside the oven, and the toaster released the flames when the rack containing burning food automatically extended at the end of the toasting cycle. More than a 1,066 food fire complaints were reported with more than half involving property damage.

CPSC staff also alleged Central's Omega series of sprinklers were defective and a substantial product hazard because they often did not operate in the event of a fire. CPSC received reports of the sprinklers not functioning in at least 20 fires. Both cases were settled and recalls were conducted of both products.

Small Business Ombudsman

CPSC's Small Business Ombudsman program is designed to quickly put small business people in direct contact with agency experts through a single telephone call, with a goal of providing expert assistance to every small business within 72 hours of when they reach out to CPSC for help. To help achieve our purpose, the agency has an extension on its toll-free hotline that connects small business directly with our Ombudsman's office.

The Small Business Ombudsman program continues to function well. Requests to our Ombudsman for assistance come from all 50 states, as well as from foreign countries such as England and Spain. This year, through direct contact with CPSC staff, the agency has helped about 500 small business persons comply more easily with its product safety guidelines and, therefore, manufacture safer products.

Field Activities

The CPSC field staff, located in 39 cities across the country, performs investigative, liaison, and consumer information activities to support the full range of agency programs. During fiscal year 1998, the CPSC field staff investigated over 3,200 injuries, deaths and other product-related incidents; collected over 3,000 product samples for testing or other evaluation; conducted 936 inspections of factories, stores or other business establishments; and identified and assured the correction of 888 violations of CPSC mandatory regulations and standards. The field staff works with local news media to publicize CPSC recalls and provide vital safety information to the public and participates in a wide range of partnerships with state and local governments and other organizations.

Telecommuting and Automation

CPSC initiated its telecommuting program in 1995. The majority of CPSC's field staff members now work out of their homes. Telecommuting has enabled CPSC to close many of its smaller offices and significantly reduce space in larger offices. The program has reduced costs and improved efficiency. In recognition of the success of telecommuting, CPSC was given a "Hammer Award" by Vice President Al Gore in 1996.

Automation made telecommuting possible. Continued advances in fully automating the field have resulted in even greater efficiency. CPSC's field investigators now receive their assignments electronically and file electronic, or "paperless," investigative reports including photographs and documents. They have access to the Internet and to a vast reference system of CPSC records, documents, press releases, procedural manuals and other information.

Recall Round-Up

For a second year in a row, CPSC successfully conducted a nationwide Recall Round-Up campaign to get dangerous products out of consumers' homes. The purpose of Recall Round-Up is to publicize previously recalled consumer products and urge people to remove them from their homes. The campaign focuses on products that present a danger to children, such as cribs and playpens.

President Bill Clinton issued a proclamation declaring April 16, 1998 as Recall Round-Up Day. All 50 states, territories, many local governments, and dozens of national non-profit organizations joined with CPSC. A 40 percent increase in state and local participants over the previous year helped to create a significant multiplier effect. Hundreds of health and safety agencies, thousands of state and local officials, national and grassroots organizations, and many businesses participated.

Recall Round-Up also generated excellent media attention. A press release and video news release were distributed nationwide. The video news release alone reached at least 20 million viewers. In addition to CPSC's national media campaign, state and local organizations issued 82 press releases and held many local press conferences. CPSC estimates that this year's Recall Round-Up reached over 50 million people.

Many of the local Recall Round-Up news conferences included creative efforts to publicize and collect recalled products. Several fire departments and businesses sponsored drop-off sites where consumers could bring recalled products which were then crushed in a garbage truck or otherwise discarded.

Because of its success, CPSC will conduct a third Recall Round-Up in fiscal year 1999.

Public Information Programs

CPSC educates and informs consumers about the safe use of products and product recalls. CPSC effectively communicates its mission and its product-safety messages directly to consumers, industry and the media through the following:

- direct responses to consumer inquiries;
- outreach efforts with local and national groups and industries;
- publications and public information programs; and
- media relations, including print, video news releases and press conferences.

New Radio Access

During 1998, CPSC installed a new audio system to allow local radio stations nationwide to access information about recalls. The audio soundbites can be accessed by using a toll-free telephone line. Radio stations can use the audio of a CPSC spokesperson discussing various recalls as part of their local broadcasts.

Safety Partnerships

CPSC continues to serve as a resource for both consumers and businesses by partnering with organizations and individuals to educate and inform consumers. During 1998, in partnership with the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, CPSC held a press conference and issued a joint brochure on sports safety for seniors. Working with S.C. Johnson & Sons Inc., CPSC helped produce a public service announcement on preventing inhalant abuse featuring Michael Jordan's mother, Deloris, and a brochure for parents. CPSC also worked with: the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on poison prevention; the Pampers Parenting Institute on grandchild safety; and with KaBOOM!, a national, non-profit, playground development organization, in a program for playground safety.

Chairman's Commendations

The "Chairman's Commendations" program recognizes outstanding contributions to product safety. Award recipients are selected on the basis of efforts that are voluntary, go beyond what the government requires, and make a significant contribution to the safety of children and others.

In 1998, Chairman Brown recognized a business and a non-profit organization for their safety efforts. Wayne-Dalton Corp., in Mt. Hope, Ohio, received the commendation for making garage doors safer through innovative designs that will help prevent injuries to consumers. The National SAFE KIDS Campaign, headquartered in Washington, D.C., and its state and local coalitions were commended for their outstanding efforts to increase public awareness of safety and prevent injuries to children.

Publications

In response to consumer requests, CPSC distributed about 1 million free publications, which are in the public domain and can be reproduced without CPSC's permission. This year, CPSC produced several new publications:

Guidelines for Addressing Entrapment Hazards Making Pools and Spas Safer, a safety guide that provides information that will help identify and address potential entrapment/entanglement hazards in public and private swimming pools and spas. These guidelines are intended for use by park and recreation personnel, public health organizations, equipment purchasers and installers, owners, inspection officials, and others who are responsible for pool and spa safety.

Keep Active . Safe At Any Age, a sports safety brochure for seniors.

Consumer Product Safety Review, published quarterly by CPSC, is a newsletter which includes in-depth articles on current consumer product safety issues, data from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) on consumer product related injuries, news from the Medical Examiners and Coroners Alert Project and Emergency Physicians Reporting System (MECAP-EPRS) on consumer product-related deaths, and listings of recent consumer product recalls.

Media Relations

CPSC's Office of Information and Public Affairs issued more than 170 press releases during the fiscal year to notify consumers of recalls, announce civil penalties and promote safety information. In addition, 21 video news releases were broadcast, and CPSC conducted 10 press conferences to promote the recall of products or important safety information. Press conferences and video news releases included fire safety, holiday toy safety, Recall Roundup, Graco child carrier recall, Central Omega sprinklers, Black and Decker toaster ovens, and Kolcraft portable cribs. Video news releases also were broadcast in an effort to promote bike helmets for children and new, safer designs for baby walkers.

Information Services

Hotline

The CPSC Hotline received more than 288,000 calls in 1998. Approximately 42,000 calls were handled by the Hotline staff and nearly 4,300 callers reported unsafe products. The Hotline continued to offer Spanish language services to callers through recorded information and bilingual Hotline representatives.

Information Technology

CPSC continued the aggressive multi-year project started in 1994 to combine its information from numerous computer systems and databases into one comprehensive, integrated system, the Commission Information System.

Accomplishments include the upgrade of computer system architecture to Windows 95 technology; completing a process of providing pentium-level personal computers for all employees, installation of new network hardware, major progress toward implementing an inter-agency agreement for a new year 2000 (Y2K) accounting system; meeting scheduled milestones for completion of Y2K conversion of all agency automated applications; designing and programming a new budget system; implementing on-line retrieval of certain documents used agency-wide (in-depth investigation reports, death certificates and product incidents); installing and testing an upgraded injury cost model; programming of reporting systems to support the agency's strategic plan; and designing and programming a laboratory testing system for fireworks.

Internet

Through CPSC's web site, <http://www.cpsc.gov>, the agency provides recall information, including pictures and video of recalled products. Portions of video news releases can now be downloaded from the web site. Other information and services available on-line include the public calendar, the electronic reading room (Freedom of Information Act documents), a search feature, consumer publications, business guides, and an interactive feature that allows consumers to file product incident reports electronically. Manufacturers also can file reports about potentially hazardous products under Section 15 of the Consumer Product Safety Act online. The number of visitors to the CPSC site average approximately 450,000 per month, compared to approximately 100,000 in its first year of operation in fiscal year 1996.

CPSC also maintains an electronic mail (e-mail) address, info@cpsc.gov, for receiving inquiries about recalls and other product safety related topics, requests for information, and reports about product hazards. Approximately 2,700 e-mail messages were handled in 1998. CPSC responds to e-mail messages within four business hours of receipt.

The public also can use the Internet to subscribe to CPSC's free listserv, which automatically distributes news releases, the public calendar, and other important CPSC information to subscribers by e-mail.

Clearinghouse

The National Injury Information Clearinghouse maintains and disseminates reports of accident investigations, product-related incidents, death certificates and newspaper reports. Injury data summaries and statistics from electronic data sources, and publications including hazard analyses and special studies, also are available to respond to more than 5,000 requests annually from the American public. In addition, each year the Clearinghouse forwards approximately 6,000 copies of reported incidents and investigations to manufacturers whose products are named in the reports.

APPENDIX A: Deaths, Injuries and Costs of Injuries from Consumer Products

Deaths, Estimates of Injuries and Estimates of Costs of Injuries From Consumer Products

The Commission, in fulfilling its mission to protect the public against unreasonable risk of injuries associated with consumer products, collects, reviews and analyzes data on deaths and estimated injuries associated with such products. Appendix A presents three tables which contain summary data by totals and by age groups for deaths, estimated injuries and estimated costs of injuries associated with products under the jurisdiction of the Commission. These products are aggregated into 15 product groupings.

While the deaths and injuries in these tables represent product involvement, that involvement does not necessarily indicate causality.

Table 1: Deaths Associated with the Use of Certain Consumer Products, October 1, 1996 - September 30, 1997. These data are taken from death certificates the Commission purchases from the states. Comparisons of Table 1 with previous Annual Report tables of deaths associated with the use of consumer products ought not to be undertaken since budgetary restrictions alter the amount and categories of death certificates purchased each year.

Table 2: Estimates of Hospital Emergency Room Treated Injuries Associated with the Use of Certain Consumer Products, October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998. This is based on data collected from a statistically selected group of hospitals as part of the Commission's National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS). Comparisons of Table 2 with previous Annual Report tables of injuries associated with the use of these consumer products must be undertaken cautiously. The NEISS hospital sample was updated on January 1, 1990, and again on January 1, 1997, to take into account changes that have occurred in the NEISS sampling frame of emergency departments over time (e.g., including hospital emergency departments opened after the initial sampling frame was constructed). The sample was also augmented between January 1, 1991, and December 31, 1996, by doubling the number of hospitals sampled in the three largest strata. In addition, over time, there have been modifications to the definition of in-scope injuries.

Table 3: Estimates of the Costs of Hospital Emergency Room Treated Injuries Associated with the Use of Certain Consumer Products, October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998. This is derived by applying the Commission's Injury Cost Model to the injury estimates of Table 2.

For products where Commission remedial action has been considered, additional data have been collected and analyzed to develop more detailed estimates. Based on interviews with victims or witnesses, the Commission identifies causes of accidents, including the interaction among the person, the product and the environment. Using all the available data, the Commission staff periodically prepares hazard analysis reports for selected products. To learn whether an analysis for any particular product is available, or to receive general injury data reports or more detailed data than are included in this appendix, please write to:

National Injury Information Clearinghouse
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Washington, DC 20207-0001

TABLE 1

Deaths Associated With the Use of Certain Consumer Products October 1, 1996 - September 30, 1997

Source: CPSC Death Certificate Project

Note: Product association is defined as any involvement of the product with these deaths and does not necessarily imply causality.

The data in this table cannot be used in trend analysis with the data from previous years; due to budgetary restrictions, differing numbers of death certificates may have been purchased in each time period.

Death certificates are made available to CPSC through contracts with each individual state. The time required for collection and processing varies by state, but the majority of death certificates are received within two years of the date of death. For fiscal year 1997, data have not been received for Delaware, Maine and New York, and data are incomplete for Alaska, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Georgia, Massachusetts, North Carolina, New Jersey, Nevada, Rhode Island, Washington and Wyoming.

Product Group ¹	AGE GROUP ²				
	Total	Under 5	5-24	25-64	65 And Over
1. Child Nursery Equipment and Supplies	50	49	1	0	0
2. Toys	16	7	3	2	4
3. Sports and Recreational Activities and Equipment	1,048	198	320	401	129
4. Home Communication, Entertainment and Hobby Equipment	19	1	6	11	1
5. Personal Use Items	207	25	24	63	96
6. Packaging and Containers for Household Products	69	11	15	33	11
7. Yard and Garden Equipment	306	9	23	141	133
8. Home Workshop Apparatus, Tools and Attachments	90	2	32	53	3
9. Home and Family Maintenance Products	45	13	16	13	3
10. General Household Appliances	41	3	7	13	18
11. Space Heating, Cooling and Ventilating Appliances	125	5	15	71	34
12. Housewares	21	4	3	7	34
13. Home Furnishings and Fixtures	841	272	83	272	245
14. Home Structures and Construction Materials	419	36	34	142	207
15. Miscellaneous	72	4	23	34	11

TABLE 2

**Estimates Of Hospital Emergency Room Treated Injuries
Associated With the Use of Certain Consumer Products
October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998 ***

Source: National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS)³

Note: NEISS data indicate that a product was associated with an injury but not necessarily that the product caused the injury.

Product Group ¹	Total	AGE GROUP ²				Estimate- Mean Severity ⁴
		Under 5	5-24	25-64	65 And Over	
1. Child Nursery Equipment and Supplies	82,212	68,381	5,786	6,760	1,285	45
2. Toys	142,884	67,044	54,499	18,608	2,733	33
3. Sports and Recreational Activities and Equipment	3,975,562	182,895	2,720,570	1,003,440	68,657	29
4. Home Communication, Entertainment and Hobby Equipment	109,556	27,180	33,447	37,801	11,128	37
5. Personal Use Items	426,200	133,859	132,472	123,849	36,020	54
6. Packaging and Containers for Household Products	351,802	44,001	111,743	167,365	28,693	27
7. Yard and Garden Equipment	236,372	9,152	45,096	146,037	36,087	40
8. Home Workshop Apparatus, Tools and Attachments	345,849	10,863	78,993	220,078	35,560	43
9. Home and Family Maintenance Products	124,042	28,420	33,689	53,288	8,645	70
10. General Household Appliances	144,533	29,739	30,710	67,205	16,879	58
11. Space Heating, Cooling and Ventilating Appliances	128,696	34,526	34,554	48,183	11,433	52
12. Housewares	788,835	48,902	263,796	426,280	49,857	22
13. Home Furnishings and Fixtures	2,054,939	521,218	458,235	659,914	415,572	38
14. Home Structures and Construction Materials	3,327,868	467,239	967,419	1,235,767	657,443	37
15. Miscellaneous	208,537	47,189	87,176	56,853	17,319	49

*Comparisons with previous Annual Report tables must be done with caution since the NEISS sample was updated on January 1, 1990, and again on January 1, 1997.

TABLE 3

**Estimates of the Cost of Emergency Room Treated
Consumer Product Injuries
October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998
(in millions of dollars)**

Source: CPSC Revised Injury Cost Model⁴ as Applied to NEISS Injury Data for the Period. Estimates are not comparable to estimates in previous Annual Reports because of changes in data and methodology.

Product group ¹	AGE GROUP ²				
	Total	Under 5	5-24	25-64	65 and over
1. Child Nursery Equipment and Supplies	1,618	1,419	83	84	32
2. Toys	1,808	807	652	315	34
3. Sports and Recreational Activities and Equipment	72,301	3,844	45,308	21,562	1,588
4. Home Communication, Entertainment and Hobby Equipment	1,799	392	477	614	316
5. Personal Use Items	6,177	1,813	1,676	1,891	798
6. Packaging and Containers for Household Products	4,284	533	1,226	2,129	397
7. Yard and Garden Equipment	4,400	183	718	2,733	766
8. Home Workshop Apparatus, Tools and Attachments	5,875	166	1,115	3,954	641
9. Home and Family Maintenance Products	1,765	390	404	812	160
10. General Household Appliances	2,660	727	448	1,093	392
11. Space Heating, Cooling and Ventilating Appliances	2,121	508	472	908	234
12. Housewares	8,648	774	2,668	4,631	575
13. Home Furnishings and Fixtures	38,712	8,149	6,138	13,479	10,946
14. Home Structures and Construction Materials	64,102	8,863	12,611	23,168	19,460
15. Miscellaneous	4,337	1,011	1,668	1,269	390

¹Product groups and specific products are included in each group. These products are defined in the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) Coding Manual (1997), Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

1. CHILD NURSERY EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Baby carriages, walkers and strollers
Cribs, playpens and baby gates
High chairs and youth chairs
Miscellaneous

2. TOYS

Children's sports and hobby equipment
Electric trains, cars and accessories
Projectile or flying toys
Toy chests and boxes
Tricycles (children's)
Wagons and other ride-on toys
Miscellaneous

3. SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND EQUIPMENT

Amusement rides
Archery
ATVs, mopeds, minibikes, etc.
Barbecue grills, stoves and fuel
Baseball/softball
Basketball
BB guns, BB's and pellets
Beach, picnic and camping equipment
Bicycles and accessories
Billiards or pool
Bowling
Boxing
Cheerleading
Curling
Dancing
Darts
Exercise equipment
Fencing
Fishing
Football
Golf
Gymnastics and equipment
Hockey, all kinds
Horseback riding
Horseshoes
Ice or snow boating
Lacrosse, rugby and miscellaneous ball games
Martial arts
Mountain climbing
Playground equipment
Racquet sports
Shuffleboard
Skateboards

Skating, all kinds
Snowmobiles
Snow skiing and snow boarding
Soccer
Swimming activity, pools and equipment
Toboggans, sleds, snow discs, etc
Track and field
Trampolines
Unicycles
Volleyball
Water skiing, tubing and surfing
Wrestling
Miscellaneous

4. HOME COMMUNICATION, ENTERTAINMENT AND HOBBY EQUIPMENT

Sound recording and reproducing equipment
Television sets and stands
Miscellaneous

5. PERSONAL USE ITEMS

Clothing, all
Coins
Desk supplies
Drug and cosmetic poisonings and chemical burns to children under age 5
Grooming devices
Holders for personal items
Infrared lamps and saunas
Jewelry, watches, keys and key chains
Massage devices
Protection devices (eyes, ears, etc.)
Razors, shavers and razor blades
Miscellaneous

6. PACKAGING AND CONTAINERS FOR HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS

Cans and other containers
Glass bottles and jars
Paper, cardboard and plastic products

7. YARD AND GARDEN EQUIPMENT

Chain saws
Hand garden tools
Hatchets and axes
Lawn and garden care equipment
Lawn mowers, all types
Other power lawn equipment
Outdoor electric lighting equipment
Pumps
Trimmers and small power garden tools

8. HOME WORKSHOP APPARATUS, TOOLS AND ATTACHMENTS
 - Automotive accessories and chemicals
 - Batteries, all types
 - Battery chargers
 - Chains
 - Engines, non-automotive
 - Hoists, lifts, jacks, etc.
 - Power home tools (excluding saws)
 - Power home workshop saws
 - Welding, soldering, cutting tools
 - Wires, cords, not specified
 - Workshop chemicals
 - Workshop manual tools
 - Miscellaneous

9. HOME AND FAMILY MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS
 - Cleaning agents (excluding soaps)
 - Cleaning equipment, non-caustics
 - Drain, oven cleaners and caustics
 - Paints, solvents and lubricants
 - Polishes and waxes
 - Soaps and detergents
 - Miscellaneous

10. GENERAL HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES
 - Cooking ranges, ovens, etc.
 - Irons and clothes steamers
 - Refrigerators and freezers
 - Washers and dryers
 - Miscellaneous

11. SPACE HEATING, COOLING AND VENTILATING EQUIPMENT
 - Air conditioners
 - Chimneys and fireplaces
 - Fans (excluding stove exhaust fans)
 - Furnaces
 - Heating stoves and space heaters
 - Pipes (heating and plumbing)
 - Radiators
 - Water heaters
 - Miscellaneous

12. HOUSEWARES
 - Cookware
 - Drinking glasses
 - Knives, unpowered
 - Scissors
 - Skewers and picks
 - Small kitchen appliances
 - Tableware and accessories
 - Miscellaneous

- 13. HOME FURNISHINGS AND FIXTURES
 - Bathtub and shower structures
 - Beds, mattresses and pillows
 - Blankets
 - Carpets and rugs
 - Chairs, sofas and sofa beds
 - Desks, cabinets, shelves, racks, etc
 - Drapery rods and accessories
 - Electric fixtures, lamps and equipment
 - Fireplace equipment
 - Holiday and party supplies
 - Hot tubs, spas and whirlpools
 - Ladders and stools
 - Mirrors and mirror glass
 - Other miscellaneous furniture and accessories
 - Scales (excluding baby scales)
 - Sinks and toilets
 - Tables
 - Window, table, chair and bed covers
 - Miscellaneous

- 14. HOME STRUCTURES AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS
 - Automatic doors and door openers
 - Cabinet or door hardware
 - Ceilings and walls of a completed structure
 - Counters and counter tops
 - Fences
 - Glass doors, windows and panels
 - Handrails, railings and banisters
 - Insulation
 - Nails, carpet tacks, etc.
 - Non-glass doors and panels
 - Outside attached structures and materials
 - Outside unattached structures
 - Porches, open side floors, etc.
 - Stairs, ramps, landings and floors
 - Window and door sills (including frames)
 - Wood panelling and particleboard
 - Miscellaneous

- 15. MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS
 - Alarms and escape equipment
 - Business and office machines
 - Dollies and carts
 - Elevators and other lifts
 - Fireworks and flares
 - Fuel-burning lighting equipment and fuels
 - Gasoline and diesel fuels
 - Generators
 - Miscellaneous

²"TOTAL" includes incidents where the age was not recorded. Therefore, the aggregated age groups may not equal the total.

³The NEISS is a probability sample of the hospital emergency departments in the United States and its territories. Consumer product-related injuries reported in the sample hospitals are transmitted via computer to the Commission on a daily basis. The injury estimates shown are provisional, they are based on data reported to CPSC as of 1/12/98. These injury reports not only provide the means for estimating the magnitude of consumer product-related injuries in the United States, but also provide a source for gathering further information concerning the nature and probable cause of the accident.

Since the estimates shown in this table are based on a sample of hospital emergency departments rather than all hospital emergency departments in the United States, they are subject to sampling error. For a description of the sample design and calculation of the sampling error, write:

National Injury Information Clearinghouse
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Washington, D.C. 20207-0001

⁴Based on the nature of the injury and the body part affected, all nonfatal injuries are classified to a 6-point scale with injuries ranging from minor to most severe. This ranking is based on medical judgment in terms of expected physical impact, as well as threat to life and potential for permanent impairment. This scale value is then increased by one if the patient is admitted for inpatient hospital care, a seventh point on the scale is established for those injuries with the most severe classification which require hospitalization. Poisonings are an exception to the procedure. A poisoning case which is treated and released is classified as a "2" on this scale, while a poisoning case requiring hospitalization is classified as a "6." Deaths are classified as "8" on this scale, but are grouped with Category 7 in the weighting procedure discussed below.

A geometric inflation factor is used to reflect differences in the degrees of severity among the seven scale categories. Category 1, the least severe category, has been assigned a value of "10." This value is increased by 20 percent to arrive at a value of "12" for Category 2. Therefore, each succeeding scale category value is increased by a geometric proportion of the preceding value; i.e., 40 percent, 80 percent, up to a 640 percent increase for Category 7. These severity values range from 10 to 2,516, based on a combination of three factors: injury diagnosis, body part involved and disposition of the case. The estimated mean severity is an average severity value for an estimated number of injuries.

Because the mean severity is based on value judgments, the reader should use caution in interpreting small differences in these measures between product groups.

⁵The estimates in Table 3 of the costs of emergency room treated injuries associated with the use of consumer products are from the Injury Cost Model (ICM) developed by the Directorate for Economic Analysis. The ICM includes 11 injury cost components: medical costs; forgone earnings; transportation costs; visitors' forgone earnings; visitors' transportation costs; health insurance administration costs; product liability insurance administration costs; litigation costs; disability costs; retreatment costs; and pain and suffering costs. Since the ICM relies solely on information on the emergency room treated injuries reported in Table 2, the cost estimates in Table 3 do not include the costs of consumer product-related injuries that were treated elsewhere, such as in physicians' offices, health maintenance organizations, and freestanding emergency clinics. Furthermore, cost estimates are not available for many acute and chronic illnesses associated with exposure to chemical hazards. The number and cost of these illnesses would be expected to be large. Table 3 also excludes the economic losses of fatalities associated with the use of a consumer product. These losses may be substantial. Injury cost estimates are adjusted to June 1998 price levels using the overall consumer price index and the overall medical care index.

Age group costs may not add to product totals because the age of the victim was not always known.

APPENDIX B: Policies, Final Regulations, and Proposed Regulations

Policies, Final Regulations, And Proposed Regulations

Description	Proposed	Final	Effective Date	Resource
Consumer Product Safety Act				
Final Action:				
Issuance of safety standard for bicycle helmets	08/15/94	03/10/98	03/10/99	63 FR 11712
Proposed Action:				
Extension of period for issuing a notice of proposed rulemaking for multi-purpose lighters	01/08/98			63 FR 1077
Request for comments on a proposed Commission resolution that responds to action plans that certain members of the all terrain vehicle industry will undertake	09/09/98			63 FR 48199
Proposal to issue a safety standard for multi-purpose lighters to reduce risks of injury that are associated with the lighters because they can be operated by young children	09/30/98			63 FR 52394

Description	Proposed	Final	Effective Date	Resource
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Poison Prevention Packaging Act

Final Action:

Issuance of final rule to require child-resistant packaging for household products containing more than the equivalent of 50 mg of elemental fluoride and more than the equivalent of 0.5 percent elemental fluoride (on a weight-to-volume ("w/v") or weight-to weight ("w/w") basis) and modification of exemption for oral prescription drugs with sodium fluoride	11/20/97	06/02/98	03/02/99	63 FR 29949
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Proposed Action:

Proposal to require child-resistant packaging for household products containing more than the equivalent of 50 mg of elemental fluoride and more than the equivalent of 0.5 percent elemental fluoride (on a weight-to-volume ["w/v"] or weight-to-weight ["w/w"] basis) and modification of exemption for oral prescription drugs with sodium fluoride	11/20/97			62 FR 61928
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Description	Proposed	Final	Effective Date	Resource
Proposal to require child-resistant packaging for minoxidil preparations containing more than 14 mg of minoxidil in a single package	03/17/98			63 FR 13019
Proposal to exempt from child-resistant packaging requirements for the oral prescription drug Sucraid	06/12/98			63 FR 32159

Flammable Fabrics Act

Final Action:

Issuance of policy to notify manufacturers, importers, distributors, and retailers of fabric and garments of factors that the Commission considers in deciding whether to seek civil penalties for violations of the Standard for the Flammability of Clothing Textiles		08/11/98	08/11/98	63 FR 42697
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Description	Proposed	Final	Effective Date	Resource
Proposed Action:				
Proposal to amend the flammability standards for children's sleepwear in sizes 0 through 6X and 7 through 14 to make several technical changes that would correct the definition of "tight-fitting garment"	05/21/98			63 FR 27877
Proposal to amend the policy statements on the flammability of children's sleepwear so that infant garments (sized for a child nine months and under) and "tight-fitting" garments (as defined in the sleepwear standards) can be marketed and promoted with other sleepwear	05/21/98			63 FR 27885
Correction in a table in a proposed rule regarding technical changes to the flammability standard for children's sleepwear	06/11/98			63 FR 31950

Description	Proposed	Final	Effective Date	Resource
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Federal Hazardous Substances Act

Final Action:

Guidance on the major factors the Commission considers when evaluating products that contain lead.			01/22/98	63 FR 3310
Guidance on liquid-filled consumer products that may contain harmful liquids.			05/28/98	63 FR 29182

APPENDIX C: Meetings of Substantial Interest

Meetings of Substantial Interest

During Fiscal Year 1998, Commissioners and staff at the Consumer Product Safety Commission held meetings to discuss matters related to the mission of CPSC. The list of those meetings complies with the requirements of section 27(j)(8) of the Consumer Product Safety Act, which requires the Annual Report to account for "the extent of cooperation of Commission officials and representatives of industry and other interested parties in the implementation of this Act." We have compiled this list on the basis of meetings announced in CPSC's weekly Public Calendar.

It is important to note that this list of meetings does not account for all meetings between Commission personnel and outside parties because not all such meetings are required to be listed in the Public Calendar. The Commission's Meetings Policy (16 CFR part 1012) requires that meetings concerning matters of "substantial interest" be listed in the Public Calendar while meetings on "non-substantial interest" are not required to be listed, although many are. For example, field staff meet frequently with a wide range of outside organizations in order to inform consumers and others of CPSC's work, but since these meetings are of "non-substantial interest" as defined by CPSC's Meeting Policy, they are not necessarily listed in the Public Calendar. Also, the list may not fully account for all meetings of voluntary standards development organizations with which CPSC participated. For additional information on voluntary standards efforts, see Appendix E.

CPSC's Meetings Policy defines "substantial interest" as concerning "any issue that is likely to be the subject of a regulatory or policy decision by the Commission." The Meetings Policy imposes the following three requirements on CPSC staff and Commissioners who hold or attend meetings involving matters of "substantial interest:" 1) they must announce the meetings in advance in the Public Calendar, 2) they must hold these meetings open to the public, unless certain specified exceptions apply, and 3) they must submit summaries of such meetings to the Office of the Secretary. In addition, summaries of telephone conversations involving "substantial interest" matters also must be submitted to the Office of the Secretary.

Meeting summaries are available from the Office of the Secretary upon request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Address information requests to:

Office of the Secretary
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Washington, DC 20207

Abbreviations

We have used the following abbreviations:

CPSA	Consumer Product Safety Act
CPSC	Consumer Product Safety Commission
EC	Directorate for Economic Analysis
EH	Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences
ES	Directorate for Engineering Sciences
EXC	Office of Compliance
EXHR	Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction
EXPA	Office of Information and Public Affairs
FO	Directorate for Field Operations
LS	Directorate for Laboratory Sciences
NEISS	National Electronic Injury Surveillance System
OCR	Office of Congressional Relations
OGC	Office of the General Counsel
OEX	Office of the Executive Director
PPPA	Poison Prevention Packaging Act

List of Meetings

27th Century Technologies, Inc.

April 7 ES: battery safety

American Apparel Manufacturers Association (AAMA)

November 13 ES & EXC: various CPSC textile flammability projects
December 17 Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff. children's sleepwear standard
December 17 ES & other CPSC staff: concerns with "tight-fitting" children's sleepwear requirements

American Beauty Association

April 24 EH: methacrylic acid in artificial nail primers

American Fireworks Standard Laboratory (AFSL)

November 21-22 LS & EXC: provisions of the AFSL standard requiring Roman Candles to have a spike and void space; cautionary labeling for various combination devices; possible revision of the standard for reloadable shells permitting the packaging of more than six shells; consideration of separate labeling provisions for parachutes
February 20-22 LS: a testing plan for: 1) Helicopters (Flight Trajectory Provision); 2) Roman Candles (Provision Requirements for a Spike, 2-inch Clay Plug, and Void Space Size), 3) Reloadable Tube Aerial Shell Devices (Packaging Provision Pertaining to Six Shots vs. Twelve-Shots per Tube); 4) What is the potential for rapid fire propagation from crackle devices in their shipping cases?

American Furniture Manufacturers Association (AFMA)

March 31 EC: speaker on CPSC activities on upholstered furniture flammability
September 9 LS & other CPSC staff: mechanical testing of a cushion mockup for the purpose of evaluating the durability of fire retardant backcoated upholstery fabrics

American National Standards Institute (ANSI)

November 13 ES: the development of a test method for vapor ignition safety requirements for gas-fired water heaters
December 5 ES: electrical safety standards

American National Standards Institute (ANSI) cont'd.

- January 21 ES & other CPSC staff: various safety related issues concerning escalators/elevators
- February 4 ES: carbon monoxide performance requirements for portable camping equipment
- April 29-30 ES: safety standards for gas-fired appliances
- June 2-3 ES: safety-related issues associated with residential gas furnaces and to observe test setup for furnace and other gas appliances
- July 28-29 ES: safety standards for gas-fired water heaters
- September 23-24 ES: safety-related issues associated with residential gas furnaces

American Pyrotechnics Association

- May 29 EH & other CPSC staff: the effects of the NEISS redesign on estimates of fireworks-related injuries
- September 23 Chairman Ann Brown: keynote address at 50th Anniversary Conference

American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)

- October 6-7 ES: various safety issues concerning escalators
- November 18 ES: various safety issues concerning escalators/elevators
- December 8 ES: various safety issues concerning escalators/elevators
- January 13 ES: various safety issues concerning escalators/elevators
- January 21 ES & other CPSC staff: various safety related issues concerning escalators/elevators

American Textile Manufacturers Institute (ATMI)

- September 9 LS & other CPSC staff: mechanical testing of a cushion mockup for the purpose of evaluating the durability of fire retardant backcoated upholstery fabrics
- September 18 Chairman Ann Brown/staff: update by ATMI on the work they are doing in the area of upholstered fabric flammability
- September 18 Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff: update by ATMI on the work they are doing in the area of upholstered fabric flammability

The Ariens Company

- May 20 ES: snowthrower safety
- September 9 ES: testing of snowthrowers to address hand injuries

Aronstein, Jesse Dr.
Consulting Engineer

October 21 ES: connectors for use with existing installations of solid aluminum branch circuit conductors

Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM)

June 30 ES & other CPSC staff: rangetop cooking fires
July 1 ES & other CPSC staff: gas range/oven emissions testing and observe test setup
July 22 ES: requirements for deep fat fryers

ASTM

October 14 EH: child-resistant packaging
November 3-6 ES & other CPSC staff: provisions in voluntary standards for juvenile products
November 4 ES: baby carriers and baby swings
November 6 ES: the development of a performance standard for fun karts
November 13 EH: revisions to a draft standard for guards intended to prevent children from falling out of windows
December 2-3 ES: the development of the ASTM voluntary standard for soft-contained play equipment
December 9 EC: upholstered furniture
December 10 ES & EH: labeling of candles
December 10-11 ES: standards development on fitness equipment and recreational headgear
December 11 EXC: the negatives on the trampoline ballot and other trampoline safety issues
January 22 ES & EXC: the development of a mini-hammock voluntary standard
January 29 ES & LS: results of tests conducted by CPSC Engineering Laboratory on crib side panels
January 29 ES & other CPSC staff: candle labeling
February 26 EH & ES: revisions to draft standards for guards intended to prevent children from falling out of windows
March 3-6 ES: revisions to voluntary standards for home and public playground equipment and provisions for a new standard for playground equipment for children under two years of age
March 30 ES & other CPSC staff: E5.15 Subcommittee on Furnishings and Contents
March 30 ES: juvenile products standards development
April 16 EH: the multipurpose lighter project
April 16 EXC: CPSC compliance activities related to the Safety Standard for Cigarette Lighters

ASTM cont'd.

April 17	ES & other CPSC staff: candle products
April 21	EH: child-resistant packaging
May 18	EH: multipurpose lighters
June 15	EH: revisions to draft standards for guards intended to prevent children from falling out of windows
June 15	ES: provisions for a new voluntary standard for playground equipment for children under two years of age
June 16-17	ES: revisions to the voluntary standard for home playground equipment
June 17-18	ES: revisions to the voluntary standard for public playground equipment
June 30	EXC: padding testing (trampolines)
July 24	ES: fun karts
August 24	ES: juvenile products standards development
September 15	ES: fire blankets for consumer use

Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceutical, Inc.

January 27	EH & other CPSC staff: child-resistant packaging
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Burlington Corporation

July 9	EC & other CPSC staff: upholstery textiles
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Business & Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association (BIFMA)

March 30	EC: CPSC activities on upholstered furniture flammability
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Camping Heating Coalition

October 6	ES & EXHR: status of efforts to develop standards requirements to protect against carbon monoxide poisoning from portable camping heaters
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Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA)

October 29	EH & other CPSC staff: phthalates
May 8	EH: results of studies done by CMA on phthalates

Childrenswear Manufacturers Association

March 16	EXC & ES: various flammable fabrics compliance issues and possible technical amendments of the children's sleepwear standard
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Ciba Specialty Chemicals

October 9 ES, LS, EXC & other CPSC staff Ciba's flammability tests of flame resistant fabrics
January 21 ES & other CPSC staff: results of Ciba's flammability tests of Pyrovatex-treated flame resistant fabrics

Consultant Information Systems

October 21 ES & other CPSC staff: various safety issues concerning escalators and the company's escalator safety products

Council for Amusement and Recreational Equipment Safety (CARES)

October 15-16 EXC & ES: amusement ride safety and sharing of accident data with state designee

Cold Regions Research Laboratory (CRREL)

September 9 ES: testing of snowthrowers to address hand injuries

John Deere Company

May 19 ES: snowthrower safety

DSL Technologies, Inc.

October 22 ES & other CPSC staff: a gas appliance burner design

Eagle Electric Manufacturing Company, Inc.

June 2 ES. ground fault circuit interrupters

Fandey, Joseph Z.

November 25 ES: ongoing Commission projects

Field Controls, Inc.

April 24 ES: use of the firm's product to vent gas appliances

Fire Retardant Chemicals Associations (FRCA)

March 23-24 EC: conference on Fire Safety and Technology

Flammable Fabrics Act (FFA) Task Force

March 10 EXC & other CPSC staff: the development of a voluntary program which would help assure that garments sold in the U.S. are in compliance with the standard for the flammability of clothing textiles

April 7 EXC & other CPSC staff: the development of a voluntary program which would help assure garments sold in the U.S. are in compliance with the standard for the flammability of clothing textiles

Forensic Packaging Concepts, Inc.

April 23 EH: child-resistant packaging

GAP Representatives

December 2 ES & other CPSC staff: design of "tight-fitting" sleepwear

Garage Door Industry Representatives

April 3 EXHR, ES, EXC & other CPSC staff: garage door safety

Gary Pool, Inc.

February 11 ES: pool and spa suction entrapment

Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA)

January 13 EXHR: ongoing and prospective CPSC programs/projects relative to gas appliances

September 23-24 ES: revisions to the CPSC staff's furnace Vent System Test Plan

Gas Furnace Industry Representatives

August 18 ES: gas furnace vent test plan developed by CPSC staff

Gas Research Institute (GRI)

July 30 ES: CO emissions testing of gas-fired ranges

September 24 ES: to witness testing of proprietary technology designs to address the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors

Great Lakes Chemical Corporation

February 5 ES: technical information on the flammability of appliance enclosures

Holtkotter International, Inc.

November 4 ES: halogen lighting issues

International Consumer Product Health & Safety Organization (ICPHSO)

February 26-27 ES: symposium/panel discussions on Juvenile Product Safety Standards and Protecting Children from Unintentional Injury

International Nonwovens & Disposables Association

May 19 EC: speaker at the Washington Textile Roundtable about CPSC activities on upholstered furniture flammability

International Sleep Products Association (ISPA)

December 10 The General Counsel, EXHR, & Office of Chairman Ann Brown: future CPSC activities on mattress flammability

January 23 ES & other CPSC staff: mattress and bedding fires

Kitchen Range Manufacturers & other interested parties

March 24 EH & other CPSC staff: results of CPSC's project on rangetop cooking fires

Kopelman Ideas, Inc.

October 7 ES: a demonstration of the company's thermal overcurrent protection technology

Lectralite Corporation

October 6 EH, EXC & other CPSC staff: new concept cigarette lighter that children cannot start fires with

Leviton Manufacturing Company, Inc.

June 11 ES: ground fault circuit interrupters

Arthur D. Little, Inc.

February 19 EXHR & other CPSC staff: draft test protocol for assessing escalator step-skirt entrapments

March 26 ES: observe conduct of test protocol developed to assess the escalator step-skirt entrapment hazard

Arthur D. Little, Inc. cont'd

July 9 ES. witness demonstration of butane chamber test method
July 21 EXHR & other CPSC staff: the results of Phase I research assessing variables that may be associated with escalator step-skirt entrapments and plans for Phase II research

**Mann, Alan
School of Biological Sciences & Polymer
Research Centre, University of Surrey,
United Kingdom**

May 6 Chairman Ann Brown/staff, the General Counsel, EXHR & EH: for an evaluation of the hearing on toxicity of flame retardant chemical for use in upholstered furniture
May 6 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff & EC: experience in the United Kingdom in justifying and enforcing regulations on the flammability of upholstered furniture

Matsushita Manufacturing Companies, Legal Conference

September 10 EXC: speaker about Joint Industry/Government Product Safety Responsibilities

Mattel, Inc.

March 11 ES. age determinations in general

**Mattress and Bedclothes Open Flame Fires Chairman's Roundtable
with outside parties**

February 4 Chairman Ann Brown & CPSC staff: mattress and bedclothes open flame fires

MIJA Industries

September 10 ES & other CPSC staff: data on residential fire extinguishers

Montgomery-KONE

March 26 ES: to observe the Arthur D. Little, Inc. conduct the test protocol they developed to access the escalator step-skirt entrapment hazard

National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM)

December 19	Commissioner Thomas H Moore/staff: upholstered furniture fires
January 22	ES & other CPSC staff: unattended home appliance fires and other CPSC fire-related projects of mutual interest
February 12	ES: electrical fires
April 9	EH & EC: participant in panel discussion on flame retardant chemicals
April 29	ES: fire-related issues of mutual interest
May 20	Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff: upholstered furniture

National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)

October 9	ES: development of a new smoke detector pamphlet
November 7	ES: safety issues related to light bulbs
March 31	ES: development of an information guide for residential smoke alarms

National Electrical Safety Foundation (NESF)

May 14	ES: electrical safety programs for consumers
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National Elevator Industry, Inc. (NEII)

February 19	EXHR & other CPSC staff: the draft test protocol for assessing variables that may be associated with escalator step-skirt entrapments
March 26	ES: to observe Arthur D. Little, Inc. conducting the test protocol they developed to access the escalator step-skirt entrapment hazard
July 21	EXHR & other CPSC staff: the results of Phase I research assessing variables that may be associated with escalators step-skirt entrapments and plan for Phase II research

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

November 18-19	EC: carbon monoxide detectors/alarms
November 20	Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff & ES: children's sleepwear regulation
December 1	Chairman Ann Brown/staff & ES: children's sleepwear regulation
December 1-5	ES: proposals to amend the <i>National Electrical Code</i>
January 20-22	EXHR: National Fire Alarm Code Committee's Report on Proposal (ROP) committee meeting
May 18-21	ES: the proposed 1999 edition of the <i>National Electrical Code</i>

National Recreation and Park Association

February 11 Chairman Ann Brown: speaker on CPSC's new playground and spa/pool entrapment guidelines and the importance of disseminating safety information to the public

National SAFE KIDS Campaign

October 13 EC: speaker at leadership conference on prevention and detection of carbon monoxide poisoning

National Ski Areas Association

June 30 ES: skiing injuries

National Spa and Pool Institute (NSPI)

January 22 Chairman Ann Brown & CPSC staff: issues related to swimming pool safety

February 11 ES: pool and spa suction entrapment

National Swimming Pool Foundation

January 22 Chairman Ann Brown & CPSC staff: issues related to swimming pool safety

Natural Gas Industry Representatives

March 25 ES: gas range/oven emissions test plan developed by CPSC staff

Newtron Products Company

September 28 EC & other CPSC staff: 1) CPSC staff activities related to carbon monoxide (CO) detection and 2) Newtron's Products Company's incorporation of CO detection capabilities into their product line

Nighthawk Systems, Inc.

March 3 EC & other CPSC staff: the use of digital displays on carbon monoxide (CO) alarms

Norman, Edam, McNaughton, & Wallace

July 13 EH: the rulemaking proceeding for multipurpose lighters

Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI)

July 16 ES: snowthrower safety
July 25-27 ES: to observe and collect information on various types of powered home gardening equipment at OPEI Expo

Packaging Partnership

April 30 EH: child-resistant packaging

Petroleum Packaging Council

August 26 EH: speaker on child-resistant packaging requirements and petroleum distillates

Polyurethane Foam Association

May 15 EC: speaker on CPSC activities on upholstered furniture

Prevent Blindness America

November 15-16 EH: CPSC activities on eye safety
June 20 EH: CPSC activities on eye safety
September 26-27 EH: CPSC activities on eye safety

Public Health Service Working Group

June 18 EH: criteria for use of latex gloves

Reckitt and Coleman

October 29 EH & other CPSC staff: child-resistant packaging

Rexam Corporation

February 19 EH: child-resistant tube packaging

Rich Ali & Associates

September 28 EC & other CPSC staff: 1) CPSC staff activities related to carbon monoxide (CO) detection and 2) Newtron's Products Company's incorporation of CO detection capabilities into their product line

Rieke Corporation

November 19 EH: child-resistant packaging
May 12 EH: child-resistant packaging

Rochester Institute of Technology

June 30 ES: skiing injuries

RPC Containers Ltd.

May 20 EH: child-resistant packaging

Sleep Products Safety Council

January 23 ES & other CPSC staff: mattress and bedding fires

A. O. Smith Water Heater Company

July 23 ES: to witness testing of proprietary designs of new technology water heaters resistant to ignition of flammable vapors

Snug-fitting Children's Sleepwear Manufacturers & Retailers

February 18 EXHR & other CPSC staff. to review staff recommendations for technical amendments to the sleepwear flammability standards and to discuss ways of cooperatively getting information to consumers about the availability of snug-fit sleepwear

Soap and Detergent Association

November 17 ES & other CPSC staff: testing of flame-resistant fabrics
June 1 Executive Director & EXHR: goals and objectives related to the development of the Globally Harmonized Systems of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals

Society of the Plastic Industry, Inc.

June 15 ES: plastic enclosures for electrical products
August 13 ES: portable household appliance enclosure

Solutions97-Packaging & Processing Technology Conference

October 15 EH: speaker on child-resistant packaging regulations

Southcorp USA

February 10 ES: to witness testing of proprietary designs of new technology water heaters resistant to ignition of flammable vapors
April 23 ES: proprietary designs of new technology water heaters resistant to ignition of flammable vapors

Square D Company

November 5 ES: to witness manufacturer arc-fault circuit interrupter testing

**Stevens, Gary
Polymer Research Centre, University of Surrey,
United Kingdom**

May 6 Chairman Ann Brown/staff, the General Counsel, EXHR & EH: for an evaluation of the hearing on toxicity of flame retardant chemicals for use in upholstered furniture
May 6 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff & EC: experience in the United Kingdom in justifying and enforcing regulations on the flammability of upholstered furniture

Sutton and McCarthy Consultants

October 21 ES & other CPSC staff: various safety issues concerning escalators and the company's escalator safety products

Suzuki

April 13 Office of Commissioner Thomas H. Moore: all-terrain vehicles

Technology Research Corporation

October 1 ES: demonstration of company's technology of fire protection for power cords

Toro

September 9 ES: testing of snowthrowers to address hand injuries
May 7 ES: snowthrower injuries

Toy Manufacturers of America (TMA)

October 21 ES: battery-operated toys

Trott, William
Department of Trade and Industry, United Kingdom

- May 6 Chairman Ann Brown/staff, the General Counsel, EXHR & EH: for an evaluation of the hearing on toxicity of flame retardant chemicals for use in upholstered furniture
- May 6 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gaff/staff & EC: experience in the United Kingdom in justifying and enforcing regulations on the flammability of upholstered furniture

Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL)

- October 27 EXHR, ES & EC: carbon monoxide detectors
- October 28 ES: flammability of polymeric electric appliance enclosures
- November 4 ES: arc fault circuit interrupter testing by UL
- November 6 ES: portable household appliances
- December 29 ES: CPSC staff thermoplastic testing and to tour CPSC testing facilities
- January 13 ES: results of the FY 97 Fire Safety Devices project
- January 13 EXHR & other CPSC staff: fire extinguishers
- February 4 ES: washing machine injuries associated with the spin cycle and potential changes to the UL standard
- February 11 ES: flammability of polymeric electric appliances enclosures
- February 18 ES: halogen torchiere lamps
- February 27 ES & EXC: garage door operators
- April 2 ES & other CPSC staff various electrical and fire topics
- May 5-6 ES: voluntary standards issues of mutual concern
- May 13 ES: proposed requirements for gate operators
- June 16 ES: plastic flammability
- August 5 ES: requirements for deep fat fryers
- August 10 ES: to receive a demonstration of UL glow-wire ignition testing and equipment
- September 10 ES: clothes dryer issues
- September 10 ES: dishwasher issues

United Kingdom Government and Industry
representatives

- December 11-12 EC: upholstered furniture

U.S. Fire Administration (USFA)

- October 10 EXHR & ES: nation's fire research agenda

**USA Baseball Medical and Safety Advisory
Committee**

June 26-28 EH: issues related to youth baseball safety

**Water Heater Industry Joint Development
Consortium**

November 20 ES: proprietary information concerning development of technological solutions to the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors
December 16 ES: proprietary information concerning development of technological solutions to the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors
February 23 ES: proprietary information concerning the development of technological solutions of the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors
April 1 ES: to witness public demonstration of proposed ANSI vapor ignition resistance test methodology and test of new technology water heater
April 2 ES: proprietary information concerning development of technological solutions to the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors
April 15 ES: proprietary information concerning development of technological solutions to the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors
May 4 ES: proprietary information concerning development of technological solutions to the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors
June 10 ES: proprietary information concerning development of technological solutions to the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors
July 15 ES: proprietary information concerning development of technological solutions to the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors
August 26 ES: proprietary information concerning development of technological solution to the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors

Wayne-Dalton Corporation

February 27 ES & EXC: garage door operators

Weave Corporation

February 24 EC & other CPSC staff: upholstery textiles

Whirlpool Corporation

July 9 ES: clothes dryer construction

Wilger Testing Company, Inc.

May 6 ES: double envelope tungsten halogen lamp

Wilkinson, C. Leslie
Bostik, Ltd., United Kingdom

- May 6 Chairman Ann Brown/staff, the General Counsel, EXHR & EH: for an evaluation of the hearing on toxicity of flame retardant chemicals for use in upholstered furniture
- May 6 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff & EC: experience in the United Kingdom in justifying and enforcing regulations on the flammability of upholstered furniture

ZLAN, Inc.

- May 7 ES: company's demonstration of their arc fault circuit interrupter

APPENDIX D: Log and Status of Petitions and Applications

Log and Status of Petitions and Applications

The Consumer Product Safety Amendments of 1981 repealed former section 10 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (CPSA). That section provided that any person could petition the Commission to issue, amend or revoke a consumer product safety rule, and required the Commission to grant or deny the petition within 120 days.

The Administrative Procedure Act (APA) requires each agency to give interested persons the right to petition for the issuance, amendment, or repeal of a rule. Therefore, notwithstanding the revocation of former section 10 of the CPSA, the Commission continues to receive and act on petitions for rulemaking under the CPSA and the other statutes which the Commission administers:

The Federal Hazardous Substances Act (FHSA);

The Flammable Fabrics Act (FFA);

The Poison Prevention Packaging Act (PPPA), and

The Refrigerator Safety Act (RSA).

Although the Commission is no longer required to act on petitions for consumer product safety rules within 120 days, the Commission addresses all petitions as responsively and expeditiously as possible.

The status of each petition under consideration during Fiscal Year 1998 is listed in this appendix using the following terminology:

- Granted - The Commission has decided to initiate a rulemaking proceeding.
- Denied - The Commission has decided not to initiate a rulemaking proceeding.
- Decision Pending - Commission review and analysis of the petition is incomplete at this time.

Petition Number	Petitioner	Summary of Petition	Disposition as of September 30, 1998
Consumer Product Safety Act			
CP 97-1	Scott Anderson/ Diana Anderson	Requests development of a safety standard for escalators	Decision Pending
CP 97-2	John S. Morse	Requests development of a safety standard to prevent shopping carts from tipping over	Petition Denied 2/11/98
Federal Hazardous Substances Act			
HP 93-1	New York City Dept. of Consumer Affairs	Requests rule establishing backyard play sets requirements	Decision Pending as to 5 requirements requested (Petition Denied as to 4 of 9 requirements requested 4/2/96)
Flammable Fabrics Act			
FP 93-1	National Association of State Fire Marshals	Requests issuance of safety standard for upholstered furniture	Decision pending as to cigarette ignition part of petition (other parts of petition decided 5/12/94)
Poison Prevention Packaging Act			
PP 97-1	Dayton Reardon	Requests exemption from PPPA requirements for oral prescription drug Sucraid	Petition Granted 6/1/98

APPENDIX E: Voluntary Standards Activities

Voluntary Standards Activities

Twenty-one new, revised or reaffirmed voluntary consumer product safety standards/guides, for which the CPSC staff provided technical support, received final approval in FY 1998. These completed standards/guides involved the following: baby walkers, basketball equipment, toddler beds, bicycle helmets, carbon monoxide alarms (detectors), bean bag chairs, high chairs, portable hook-on chairs, child resistant-packaging, non-full-size cribs, extension cords, expansion gates and expandable enclosures, fun karts, furniture (tipover), gate operators, gas systems overpressure protection, home playground equipment, public playground equipment, and soccer goals. In addition to the above, approval was announced in FY 1998 of five quality assurance testing standards for child-resistant packaging (actual approval was predated to 9/10/97).

In total, the staff provided technical support to the development of 50 voluntary safety standards, each of which is summarized below. Nearly all of these were handled by three standards development coordinating organizations - the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and Underwriters Laboratories (UL). These standards provide performance safety provisions addressing potential hazards associated with consumer products found in our homes, schools, and recreational areas.

Highlights presented below describe each of the 50 consumer product safety standards under development in FY 1998. The staff continued monitoring conformance to selected voluntary consumer product safety standards.

SUMMARY LISTING OF FY 1998 VOLUNTARY STANDARDS PROJECTS

1. All-Terrain Vehicles
2. Baby Swings
3. Bicycle and Recreational Helmets
4. Camping Equipment
5. Candles
6. Carbon Monoxide Alarms (Detectors)
7. Chairs, High
8. Child Resistant Packaging
9. Clothes Dryers
10. Counter Top Cooking Appliances
11. Cribs
12. Electrical Maintenance Code, Residential
13. Escalators
14. Extension Cords
15. Fireworks Devices
16. Fun Karts
17. Furnaces, Gas-Fired Central
18. Furniture Tipover
19. Garage Door & Gate Operators
20. Gas Systems (Overpressure Protection)
21. Gas Systems, 20 Pound
22. Heaters, Unvented Gas Room
23. Heaters, Vented
24. Infant Bedding and Related Accessories
25. Infant Carriers
26. Lamps and Lighting
27. LP Gases Code
28. Mini Hammocks
29. National Electrical Code
30. National Fuel Gas Code
31. Plastic Applications in Electrical Products
32. Playground Equipment (<2 yrs. old)
33. Playground Equipment, Home
34. Playground Equipment, Public
35. Playground Equipment, Soft
36. Protective Padding
37. Ranges and Ovens
38. Saws, Chain
39. Saws, Table
40. Shock Protection Devices
41. Snow Throwers
42. Soccer Goals
43. Sprinklers
44. Strollers
45. Toy Safety
46. Trampolines
47. Treadmills
48. Washing Machines
49. Water Heaters, Gas
50. Window Guards