

## LOG OF MEETING

### DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

9/16/05  
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**SUBJECT:** Performance of new mattress barrier materials under 16 CFR 1632, Standard for the Flammability of Mattresses

**DATE OF MEETING:** September 2, 2005

**DATE OF LOG ENTRY:** September 2, 2005

**SOURCE OF LOG ENTRY:** Margaret Neily, ESFS **MM**

**LOCATION:** Room 714, CPSC Headquarters, Bethesda, MD

**CPSC ATTENDEES:** See attached list of attendees.

**NON-CPSC ATTENDEES:** See attached list of attendees.

**SUMMARY OF MEETING:** Jonathan Kane and Dr. David Wenstup of Milliken & Company identified issues associated with measuring char length produced in the mattress tests required under 16 CFR 1632, Standard for the Flammability of Mattresses and Mattress Pads. There are difficulties measuring char down into the mattress, especially in constructions where there are very deep quilt channels created in top panels containing thick cushioning materials. The cigarette causes the quilt threads to break and the materials in the panel to expand. This change in geometry complicates and confuses the char length measurement to be made.

Since the char length criteria was originally established to identify mattress materials and constructions that would exhibit self-sustained smoldering (cotton or rayon), other options for making this determination may be more appropriate or practical given today's new materials. Milliken has seen products that pass TB 603, but fail 16 CFR 1632 because of self-sustained smoldering and others that fail the char length criteria without continued smoldering.

In light of the Commission's ANPR to amend/revoke the cigarette ignition standard, some clarification of how to measure the depth of char (damage vs. discoloration) may be needed. Perhaps other ways to identify self-sustained smoldering would be appropriate. Both British and European standards include a time period for making an observation of continued combustion.

In the portion of the meeting that was closed to the public, Milliken representatives discussed proprietary tests they developed as well as the corresponding results of those tests.

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## ATTENDANCE

Performance of new mattress barrier materials under 16 CFR 1632, Standard for  
the Flammability of Mattresses  
September 2, 2005

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