



MEETING LOG

SUBJECT: Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) Table Saw AIMS Task Group Meeting

OP PLAN ENTRY: Table Saws

DATE OF MEETING: 1/29/2025

LOCATION OF MEETING: Virtual

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Andrew Newens (ESMC)

FILING DATE: 1/30/2025

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Andrew Newens (ESMC)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Contact UL for the full attendee list.

Summary of Meeting:

This was the fourth meeting of the Table Saw Active Injury Mitigation System (AIMS) Task Group (TG), which was formed by the UL 745 technical committee in response to letters from CPSC staff expressing concern with trend analyses of table saw injuries from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) that show no decline in the number or severity of injuries from 2004 to 2021. As a starting point for discussion, the task group chair developed a draft proposal for adding AIMS requirements to UL 62841-3-1 *Standard for Electric Motor-Operated Hand-Held Tools, Transportable Tools and Lawn and Garden Machinery - Safety - Part 3-1: Particular Requirements for Transportable Table Saws*.

CPSC shared that its FY25 Operating Plan includes a notice of availability of the in-depth investigations (IDIs) that comprise the 2017 Study.

The TG discussed various topics, including different AIMS technologies and the available incident data. Ultimately, the group came to the consensus that AIMS systems are difficult to validate because they cannot be tested reliably and repeatably with a real human finger. Testing with a surrogate finger probe always requires assumptions that it's equivalent to a human finger, but that introduces uncertainty. One person argued that there is no way to specify the properties of a test finger probe that can be used across all variations of probe detection technologies (such as conductive vs. visual) and make it a reproducible test for all technologies. Several members agreed that it seems the only path forward would be to allow each manufacturer to develop its own finger probe, but then that opens another set of concerns, such as lack of objectivity or transparency.

Furthermore, Saw Stop technology may be able to meet CPSC's proposed AIMS performance requirements (<3.5 mm depth of cut in a finger probe moving toward the blade at 1 m/s), but not all other technologies can meet those requirements.

Due to what TG members viewed as insurmountable obstacles, the majority voted to discontinue meeting.

Next Steps:

The TG will discontinue meeting. UL will discuss internally next steps.