

1995  
ANNUAL  
REPORT  
TO CONGRESS

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United States  
Consumer Product  
Safety Commission



**Ann Brown**  
*Chairman*



**Mary Sheila Gall**  
*Vice-Chairman*



**Thomas H. Moore**  
*Commissioner*

Dear Members of Congress:

The United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is pleased to submit its report for Fiscal Year 1995.

As an independent federal agency, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission keeps families—especially children—safe in and around their homes by overseeing the safety of 15,000 types of consumer products. To reduce injuries and deaths associated with these products, CPSC researches product hazards, helps industry to develop voluntary standards for products, monitors compliance with voluntary standards, issues and enforces mandatory standards, and informs the public of potential product hazards.

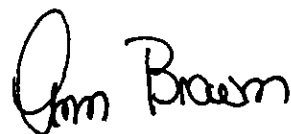
CPSC encourages industry to voluntarily improve the safety of its products in lieu of mandatory regulations. This year to promote this aim, CPSC brought together corporate leaders and senior business executives from across the country to discuss the unique theme of "safety sells." The conference marked the first time CPSC brought senior industry officials together to talk about business profitability and product safety as mutual objectives.

CPSC also encourages consumer responsibility in product safety. CPSC's Hotline is a key link in the agency's efforts to inform the public about the recall of hazardous products from the marketplace. CPSC received Vice President Al Gore's Reinventing Government "Hammer" award for transforming an outmoded telephone center into a cutting-edge interactive information system incorporating a 24-hour Hotline, Internet access, bilingual operators, and fax-on demand services.

This year, CPSC worked with industry to obtain several massive recalls of hazardous products that were quickly brought to the public's attention. These recalls included bean bag chairs filled with pellets that could suffocate small children, wooden bunk beds made with spaces where children became trapped and strangled, and flammable chiffon scarves that burned faster than newspaper.

The following pages explain in detail CPSC's work for 1995, which helped reduce injuries and save lives. As chairman and with my esteemed colleagues, Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall and Commissioner Thomas Hill Moore, we will see that CPSC continues to share the responsibility of product safety with our product-safety partners, industry and the American public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ann Brown

## CONTENTS

CPSC Highlights and Success Stories... ..	2-3
Hazards Identification and Analysis	
Data Collection, National Electronic Injury Surveillance System. . . . .	4
Studies..... ..	4-5
Mandatory Standards . . . . .	5-6
Voluntary Standards	
Children's Product Hazards..... ..	6
Fire and Electrical Hazards..... ..	7
Other Hazards..... ..	7
Enforcing Mandatory Product Regulations	
Import Surveillance... ..	8
Enforcing Product Regulations.. ..	8-9
Corrective Actions . . . . .	9
Compliance and Enforcement Actions..... ..	9-10
Civil Penalties .....	10
International Activities .....	10-11
Safety Partnerships. . . . .	11-12
Reinventing Government..... ..	13-14
Conferences .. . . . .	14-15
Consumer Information	
Hotline... ..	15
Internet.. . . . .	16
Information Technology..... ..	16
Clearinghouse. ....	16
Public Affairs..... ..	16
Consumer Education and Outreach..... ..	17
Publications..... ..	17
Media Programs. ....	18

## Appendices

Appendix A: Deaths, Injuries, and Cost of Injuries from Consumer Products	A-1
Appendix B: Policies, Final Regulations, and Proposed Regulations	B-1
Appendix C: Meetings of Substantial Interest	C-1
Appendix D: Log and Status of Petitions and Applications	D-1
Appendix E: Voluntary Standards Activities	E-1
Appendix F: Voluntary Corrective Action Plans and Product Recalls Subsection A/Regulatory Recalls Subsection B/Section 15 Recalls	F-1
Appendix G: Litigation and Settlements	G-1
Appendix H: Index of Products Regulated by CPSC	H-1
Appendix I: Federal-State Cooperative Program	I-1
Appendix J: Organizational Structure and Functions	J-1
Appendix K: Advisory Opinions	K-1

# **CPSC Highlights and Success Stories**

## **Window Covering Pull Cords**

CPSC worked with manufacturers of window blinds and shades to address a "hidden hazard" in the home. More than 170 children between eight months and four years old have died since 1981 as a result of window blind and drapery cords. Most of them strangled after becoming entangled in the cords. In the spring of 1994, CPSC initiated a cooperative effort with the window covering industry to respond to the hazards posed by the loops in window blind cords. Within six months, CPSC and industry devised a solution.

In a joint press conference held in October 1994, CPSC and the newly-created Window Covering Safety Council announced a three-part program to eliminate the loop in most window blind cords by (1) improving the safety of existing window coverings, (2) modifying the future production of window coverings, and (3) implementing an educational campaign for consumers. The agency advised parents and other consumers how to eliminate the loop in two-corded horizontal blinds. In addition, manufacturers took steps to prevent future strangulations by eliminating the loop on two-corded horizontal blinds manufactured after January 1, 1995. CPSC estimates that this program, which required no regulation, will save about 25 children's lives over a five-year period.

## **Safety Sells Conference**

In March 1995, CPSC brought together corporate leaders and senior business executives from across the country at a conference with a unique theme: "safety sells." CPSC's goal for the conference was to forge a new, creative partnership between industry and the agency. The conference marked the first time CPSC had brought senior industry officials together to talk about business profitability and product safety as mutual objectives.

The conference featured talks by top executives from eight major consumer product companies including Hasbro Inc., The Procter & Gamble Co., Binney & Smith Inc., and Rollerblade Inc. Each speaker presented a case study of an approach to safety in his company, demonstrating not only that product safety is an emerging business trend, but, in fact, that safety sells. The speakers emphasized their companies' commitment to safety and the competitive advantages of their safety innovations. They provided working examples of how companies have improved their competitive position by "selling" safety and highlighted the various ways companies have successfully incorporated safety into their business and marketing. Their presentations demonstrated an extraordinary range of innovative approaches to making and selling safer products.

## **Poison Prevention Packaging**

In order to prevent the poisoning of children, CPSC requires that certain medications and other hazardous substances be in child-resistant packaging that is difficult for children under 5 to open. Under the Poison Prevention Packaging Act, more than 700 children's lives have been saved from accidental poisoning by prescription drugs and aspirin. However, in 1995 hospital emergency rooms treated about 120,000 children for ingestions and poison control centers received one million calls about child poisonings. Many of these ingestions occurred when adults, including the elderly, had trouble opening child-resistant packaging and would throw the caps away, leave them open, or transfer hazardous substances to non child-resistant packaging.

In 1995, CPSC revised its regulation to require that panels used to test child-resistant packaging be composed of adults ages 50-70, rather than adults age 18-45, as had previously been the case. This practical solution, which won industry's active support, will save children's lives by increasing the use of packaging that is easier for adults to open while maintaining its child-resistance. While the industry has until January 1998 to comply with the new regulation, "adult-friendly" child-resistant packaging is already appearing on the market.

## **Infant Suffocation on Soft Bedding**

Research conducted by CPSC provided the first direct epidemiologic evidence that infants who sleep on top of soft bedding are at increased risk of suffocation and death. This hidden hazard may contribute to as many as 1,800 infant deaths a year. The study directly links the rebreathing of carbon dioxide trapped in bedding to infants found dead in the prone position.

Results of the study found that about 30 percent of the 206 infants in the study who reportedly died of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) were found with their noses and mouths covered by soft bedding. Most of the infants had been placed prone to sleep and were found lying on top of soft bedding such as pillows, comforters and sheepskins. However, nine infants placed on their backs or sides to sleep rolled to the prone position and were found with their airways covered. This finding underscores that parents and caregivers should not put infants to sleep on top of soft bedding regardless of sleep position.

In 1995, CPSC warned the public about the hazard through safety alerts, a national press conference, and by joining in the "Back-to-Sleep" public health campaign promoting side and back sleeping for infants with the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development, and the SIDS Alliance. These organizations also published CPSC's study results in the *Pediatrics Journal* and distributed pamphlets with CPSC's warnings. As one SIDS expert commented, "You and your staff have done a tremendous service to infants and their families by completing this important study. Sparing families from the tragedy of the sudden and unexpected death of their infant is a huge contribution to the public good."

## **Hazards Identification and Analysis**

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission studies and investigates deaths, injuries, diseases, and economic losses associated with consumer products. These activities are used to identify hazardous products and to design effective strategies that reduce these hazards thereby improving consumer safety.

### **Data Collection: National Electronic Injury Surveillance System**

Through a statistically-selected national sample of hospital emergency rooms, CPSC collects information on product-related injuries through a national sample of hospitals participating in the agency's National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS). In 1995, NEISS continued to provide the foundation for much of the CPSC's work, including special studies of injuries associated with fires, baseball, and fireworks.

Many countries around the world, including Japan, New Zealand, and several European countries, model their data base systems on CPSC's NEISS system.

## **Studies**

### **Electrical Wiring**

Inadequate wiring in older homes is a leading cause of fires in this country. To address this problem, CPSC completed an engineering study of electrical safety devices that detect and monitor conditions that could cause fires in the electrical wiring system. The final report identifies promising technologies to reduce electrical wiring fires. The goal of the study is to encourage the development of and improve practical, cost-effective electrical protection that can be embodied into codes for building new homes and rehabilitating existing residences.

CPSC completed several inspection and correction demonstrations of actual residences to show property owners, housing officials and other interested parties how basic electrical safety-related repairs can be accomplished at reasonable cost. CPSC is using video tape of the work on a home in Capital Heights, Md., and a home in Redlands, Calif., to demonstrate cost-effective options for upgrading electrical wiring hazards in older homes.

### **Fireworks Injuries**

CPSC found that an estimated 7,000 injuries from fireworks occurred in June and July 1995. Most of the victims were males; almost half were between 10 and 19 years of age. Burns were the most common injury, followed by contusions, abrasions, and lacerations. Misuse and malfunction of the devices were contributing factors in a number of the injuries.



## **Baby Walker Injuries**

CPSC completed a special study on baby walkers. Of the estimated 23,900 walker incidents reported through NEISS during the study period, 83 percent (19,800) were related to falls down stairs or falling between floor levels. Eighty-four percent of the potentially more severe injuries, such as skull fractures and concussions, occurred when a child in a walker fell down stairs or fell between levels.

## **Upholstered Furniture**

In 1995, CPSC contracted with Abt Associates to survey upholstered furniture manufacturers on what materials they currently use to build upholstered furniture. This information assisted CPSC in reviewing the voluntary standard established by the Upholstered Furniture Action Council that addresses the ignition hazard of smoldering cigarettes.

## **Carpet Systems**

CPSC initiated a contract study to assess the ability of carpet and carpet cushion chemicals to cause pulmonary and sensory irritation. The agency initiated this study to investigate whether any of the carpet system chemicals could be linked with the health-threatening symptoms that consumers report are related to their carpets.

## **Ranges and Ovens**

CPSC initiated a multi-year project to evaluate range and oven fires. This study included an interagency agreement with the National Institute of Standards and Technology to identify the physical and chemical signatures associated with both normal cooking and an impending cooking fire. Results indicated that high temperature, smoke, and hydrocarbon gases are the primary distinguishing features. The second phase of the study will evaluate sensor technology.

## **Mandatory Standards**

### **Poison Prevention Packaging Act (PPPA) - Protocol Revisions**

CPSC published changes to the child-resistant packaging test protocols of the Poison Prevention Packaging Act. The changes will result in packages that are easier for adults to open without sacrificing child-resistance. A test using adults aged 50 to 70 was substituted for the test using adults 18 to 45 years of age for most products. The child test procedures were simplified to make the test easier to conduct. Beginning in January 1998, industry must comply with the new adult-friendly test.

## **PPPA - Additional Products**

CPSC finalized requirements for child resistant packaging for mouthwash containing 3 grams of ethanol, naproxen (an anti-inflammatory drug), and lidocaine and dibucaine (local anesthetics). CPSC also proposed an exemption of iron powder supplements from the requirements of the Poison Prevention Packaging Act.

## **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. These voluntary standards are developed through a national consensus process that assures openness and allows for the participation of all interested parties, including industry, associations, government, and consumers. CPSC provided technical support for 40 voluntary safety standards under development

## **Children's Product-Hazards**

CPSC helped develop new or revised provisions for 19 national consensus safety standards for products presenting potential hazards to children, such as strollers and toddler beds. CPSC worked with an ASTM subcommittee to develop a new requirement to address entrapment and strangulation of infants in the leg openings of strollers with backrests that recline to a carriage position. Thirteen infants are known to have strangled in such leg openings. Another ASTM subcommittee completed a new provisional standard for toddler beds addressing entrapment in the bed structure and structural integrity of the bed.

## **Toy Safety**

CPSC worked with ASTM to revise the toy safety standard to provide for improved safety features addressing flammability, toxicology, protrusions on crib toys, small parts, labeling, battery operated toys, and miscellaneous items such as clarification of test procedures for riding toys. Additional safety provisions, including those relating to small toy figures and pompons, were in the final approval process at the end of 1995.

## **Baby Walkers**

CPSC worked with ASTM to review and revise provisions of the current baby walker standard including the specifications for warning labels. In response to CPSC's request to address the hazard of children falling down stairs in walkers, manufacturers representing a significant portion of the sales of traditional walkers formed an ASTM working group to develop new safety performance requirements for walkers. An initial draft of the stair-fall requirements was discussed at the June 1995 ASTM meeting.

## **Fire and Electrical Hazards**

### **Smoke Detectors**

CPSC completed two field surveys on the operating ability of smoke detectors and contracted a study on why detectors fail to alarm. Currently only about seven out of ten households have a working detector. These studies underscore the importance of maintaining smoke detectors in the home. CPSC found that non-working detectors failed to alarm for reasons including disconnection due to unwanted or nuisance alarms, dead or missing batteries, debris buildup, and component failure because of age, corrosion, or other reasons.

Based on this information, CPSC proposed changes to the Underwriters Laboratories smoke detector standard to improve detector reliability and to include a method for silencing nuisance alarms to reduce the tendency of consumers to remove the batteries.

### **Holiday Lighting**

With recommendations from CPSC, Underwriters Laboratories proposed major improvements to its standard for temporary holiday lighting (e.g. Christmas light strings), which are supported by most companies in this industry. The standard covers basic, minimum safety requirements to eliminate electrical shock and fire hazards. The new requirements become effective in 1997.

### **Gas Water Heaters**

The gas water heater industry continued to make significant progress in its actions to address the hazard of water heaters igniting flammable vapors. At CPSC's urging, the Gas Research Institute began investigating a "worst case" scenario as part of the test methodology already under development.

Gas water heater manufacturers formed the Joint Product Development Consortium in order to develop and test prototypes with new water heater technologies designed to mitigate the hazard of ignition of flammable vapors.

### **Other Hazards**

CPSC also was involved in voluntary safety standards activities for other products such as window guards, bean bag chairs, carbon monoxide detectors, fireworks devices, and selected gas appliances. A new national voluntary consensus standard was completed limiting the amount of formaldehyde in medium density fiberboard and in particleboard for mobile home decking and underlayment.

## **Enforcing Mandatory Product Regulations**

To reduce unreasonable risks of injury and death associated with consumer products, CPSC enforces product safety standards, including performance standards and labeling requirements

### **Import Surveillance**

CPSC and the U.S. Customs Service continued their cooperative efforts to identify and prevent hazardous consumer products from entering the United States. The dockside surveillance of consumer products imported to the United States 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 have prevented more than 12 million hazardous fireworks and more than 800,000 hazardous toys from entering the country. CPSC's and the U.S. Customs Service import surveillance program

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

Since this joint program began in 1988, CPSC has seen the foreign toy industry increase its level of compliance with this agency's safety regulations. The toy industry also has taken greater efforts to more fully inform its members of CPSC's requirements. And finally, many individual companies have developed or improved their internal testing and quality control programs.

CPSC's safety standard requiring child resistance in disposable and novelty cigarette lighters became effective on July 13, 1994. CPSC and Customs closely enforce these requirements. In 1995, CPSC and Customs prevented over 134,000 lighters from entering the country.

### **Enforcing Product Regulations**

CPSC conducted a total of 1,282 inspections of U.S. manufacturing, importing, and retailing establishments involved with products subject to the agency's mandatory requirements

During these domestic and import surveillance activities, CPSC examined more than 2,500 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 43 percent (almost 1,100) of the targeted products it examined violated agency regulations. One hundred and sixty recalls involved 16 million product units, including flammable skirts, scarves, and fleece garments.

During 1995, CPSC was active in looking for violations of the flammability standard under the Flammable Fabrics Act. Of the 413 samples of fabrics and garments that CPSC collected, 138 violated the act.

As part of its enforcement program, CPSC targeted fireworks. CPSC and the U.S. Customs Service selectively sampled 460 shipments of fireworks. Out of the total number of shipments, 287 violated CPSC's mandatory safety requirements with 134 shipments presenting violations serious enough to warrant seizure or other action by Customs to prevent entry of the shipments into the United States. The level of substantial compliance with the fireworks regulations remains low at approximately 70 percent for imported fireworks. CPSC is continuing its efforts to assure that fireworks comply with agency regulations.

## **Corrective Actions**

- CPSC obtained 428 corrective actions involving more than 30 million consumer product units that either violated mandatory safety standards or presented a substantial risk of injury to the public.
  - CPSC enforced the Flammable Fabrics Act by obtaining the voluntary recall of 160,000 dangerously flammable fleece garments and 375,000 imported scarves.
  - CPSC obtained voluntary recalls of 361,000 wooden bunk beds and 10 million bean bag chairs.
- CPSC and the U.S. Customs Service detained more than 330 shipments of imported consumer products that did not meet U.S. safety standards for reconditioning or export out of the United States. As a result, about 13.5 million dangerous, violative product units never reached store shelves.

## **Compliance and Enforcement Actions**

If CPSC's commissioners determine after a hearing that a product poses a substantial hazard to consumers, the agency can order the manufacturer to repair, replace, or refund the purchase price of the product to consumers. However, CPSC conducts most corrective actions with the cooperation of companies.

Of the 428 corrective actions, 268 dealt with defective products not subject to mandatory standards. This resulted in the recall, repair, replacement, refund, or prospective design changes to more than 14 million units of consumer products. These products included playground equipment, bunk beds, electrical appliances, gas furnaces, recreational products, decorative seasonal lighting, and laptop computers.

Toys and children's products continue to be one of CPSC's prime concerns. CPSC initiated several toy recalls for the following reasons: the toys had paint containing lead levels that were dangerous for children; the toys for children under 3 had small parts that presented a choking hazard; or the toys that otherwise presented a substantial risk of injury to children.

Other product categories involved in product recalls were home electrical appliances, gas furnaces, outdoor electric light fixtures, medications and household chemicals requiring child-resistance closures, fireworks, scuba diving equipment, outdoor cooking grills, laptop computer batteries, and general wearing apparel. Manufacturers and retailers working with CPSC recalled more than 160,000 fleece garments found to be dangerously flammable.

## **Civil Penalties**

In addition to the many corrective actions involving various consumer products, CPSC was also active in obtaining civil penalty settlements totaling \$1.1 million in 17 separate matters. These agreements covered CPSC allegations 1) that companies 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) that companies violated mandatory safety requirements.

## **International Activities**

CPSC involvement in international activities during 1995 had three goals:

- to assure that consumer products imported into the United States are safe;
- to encourage mutually-acceptable consumer product safety standards and conformity assessment among nations worldwide; and
- to share information and expertise in order to remain abreast of scientific advances.

CPSC joined other federal agencies in providing technical support to implement provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to help reduce technical barriers to trade resulting from regulations and mandatory standards.

CPSC and its counterpart the Product Safety Bureau (PSB), Health Canada, continued to share significant information. For the first time, CPSC and PSB addressed the issue of compatible United States and Canadian mandatory product safety standards for toys.

CPSC communicated the agency's compliance and enforcement activities to representatives of 36 nations in attendance at the Summit of the Americas Customs, Trade, Finance Symposium and Exhibit.

CPSC participated in activities of the U.S. delegation to the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD), Committee on Consumer Policy (CCP), and its Working Party on Product Safety. CPSC is giving its Internet subscription service free of charge to OECD-CCP and its working party to expedite international communication of urgent recall and safety messages.

CPSC monitored negotiations between the United States and the European Union on Mutual Recognition Agreements to ensure that consumer products will be adequately tested to meet the required U.S. safety standards. CPSC also participates in the European Consumer Safety Association and the Product Safety Enforcement Forum of Europe and contributes to the *International Journal for Consumer Safety*.

CPSC worked with other federal agencies to provide technical support to international discussions of standard-related measures within the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation. In Hong Kong and the Peoples Republic of China, CPSC instructed exporters and shippers in the agency's product regulations including fireworks, electrical products, and children's products for import into the United States. In general, host governments or private organizations fund CPSC's international travel costs.

## **Safety Partnerships**

CPSC developed a number of productive partnerships with businesses, nonprofit organizations, and other government agencies. As a small agency with limited resources, CPSC increases its effectiveness by teaming up with other organizations on individual projects and through long-term relationships.

Through its NEISS data collection system, CPSC saw an increase in the number of in-line skating injuries creating a serious safety concern. After publicizing these findings, the agency met with industry representatives to discuss ways that the industry and CPSC could work together to promote the use of safety gear. The industry pledged its support for a major educational campaign and invited Chairman Brown to be the featured speaker at a National Sporting Goods Association trade show safety seminar. The President of Rollerblade Inc. John Hetterick joined Chairman Brown and Tipper Gore, wife of Vice President Al Gore, for a press conference on the Mall in Washington to encourage skaters to use safety gear.

At a meeting with the new President of the National Safety Council Gerard F. Scannell, Chairman Brown pledged to work closely with the council on safety matters, including home and playground safety. The council will communicate CPSC's information on these topics through its chapters, members, publications, and work with corporations around the country.

During 1995, CPSC and the American Automobile Association joined together to help increase the use of bicycle helmets by school-age riders. AAA surveyed school children to find out how many of them used bike helmets and what would encourage more kids to wear them. Together AAA and CPSC issued a report on the survey and a brochure, "Kids Speak out on Bike Helmets " CPSC reported the findings to manufacturers of helmets and to safety professionals attending the U S Department of Transportation's "Moving Kids Safely" Conference.

CPSC worked with the National Safe Kids Campaign, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing the injury of children through the grassroots work of nearly 200 local and state coalitions throughout the country. The group honored CPSC for its work by presenting Chairman Brown with a "Champion of Safe Kids" award.

CPSC joined with the Department of Health and Human Services to incorporate safety into the "Healthy Child Care America Campaign." The agency worked closely with the Centers for Disease Control's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control on baseball safety. CPSC strengthened its links with the Army-Air Force Exchange Service, one of the world's largest retailers, to inform its customers about recalled products. CPSC also began providing safety videos to the U.S. Army for distribution through its broadcast network. Chairman Brown met with the Secretary of Education pledging to improve safety in schools by joining the Secretary's Family Involvement Partnership for Learning, a means for disseminating safety information to a broad range of organizations.

CPSC and 200 other participants joined together in the National Smoke Detector Project to help increase the number of working smoke detectors in residences. CPSC, the U.S. Fire Administration, the Congressional Fire Services Institute, and the National Fire Protection Association oversee the project, utilizing the expertise of differing constituencies representing varying disciplines to find creative solutions for increasing working detectors in homes.

CPSC worked with local fire departments around the country to identify fires related to upholstered furniture, ovens and ranges, and mattresses and bedding, allowing CPSC field investigators to obtain detailed information about these fires.

CPSC worked with the recently-formed National Electrical Safety Foundation to provide consumers with information about electrical safety. This non-profit foundation supported by the electrical industry includes manufacturers, retailers, contractors, electricians, testing labs and electrical inspectors.

CPSC participated in the Coalition for a Safer America to develop an innovative video and other communications materials targeted to help young children learn fire safety. Members of the coalition included Allstate Insurance, American Association of School Administrators, CPSC, General Federation of Women's Clubs, National Association of Elementary School Principals, National Consumers League, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the National PTA, and the U.S. Fire Administration.



# **Reinventing Government**

## **The Hotline**

CPSC received Vice President Al Gore's Reinventing Government "Hammer" award for improving service to the public through its toll-free Hotline. CPSC won the award after it transformed an outmoded telephone center into a cutting-edge interactive information system incorporating a 24-hour Hotline, Internet access, bilingual operators, and fax-on demand services.

More than 251,000 people contacted the new Hotline this year. The Hotline is a key link in CPSC's efforts to inform the public about the recall of hazardous products from the marketplace. The Hotline also ranked as a semi-finalist in the Innovations in American Government program sponsored by the Ford Foundation and the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

## **Clearinghouse**

The National Injury Information Clearinghouse maintains and disseminates information relating to the prevention of death and injury associated with consumer products. The Clearinghouse maintains reports of accident investigations, and product-related incidents, death certificates, and newspaper reports. Injury data and statistics from electronic data sources and publications including hazard analyses, special studies, and data summaries are also available to respond to more than 6,000 requests each year from the American public.

The Clearinghouse annually mails more than 10,000 reports of product-related incidents to the public to confirm the accuracy of unsolicited information. The Clearinghouse also forwards 1,800 accident investigation reports and 4,500 incident reports to manufacturers to alert them to reports of hazards associated with consumer products.

In 1995, CPSC re-engineered its Clearinghouse to improve customer service by streamlining procedures and renewing the agency's commitment to its customers. For example, the agency instituted a system that electronically transmits incident reports from CPSC's Hotline directly to the Clearinghouse. These reports are acknowledged within 48 hours or less, reducing the time from 48 days in the past.

## **Chairman's Commendations**

When she took office, CPSC Chairman Brown instituted a program of "Chairman's Commendations" to recognize outstanding business 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 or others.

In 1995, Chairman Brown recognized Toys R Us for its corporate commitment to child safety, as shown by its exemplary testing and education programs; Rollerblade Inc. and the International In-Line Skating Association for their safety campaigns and commitment to in-line skating safety, and the Whirlpool Corporation for building a commitment to safety into the company's culture as demonstrated by its effective recall programs. Chairman Brown had previously given commendations to Procter & Gamble, Playskool, and Sunbeam Products.

## **Telecommuting**

This year, CPSC began a pilot telecommuting program for its field staff members in the Mid-Atlantic area. This goal of this new program is to cut red tape and to provide better service to the public while reducing the costs of rent and other services. Ten CPSC employees, including a supervisor, nine investigators, and a public affairs specialist, work out of their homes using state-of-the-art computers and telecommunications equipment. Based on the early success of this program, CPSC's will expand telecommuting for its field representatives in the future.

## **Conferences**

### **Safety Sells**

On March 28, the agency sponsored a conference on the theme of "Safety Sells," which brought together corporate leaders and senior business executives from across the country. Top executives from eight major corporations addressed the conference on how the presenters' companies had combined business profitability with marketing safe products.

Speakers from companies including Hasbro, Procter & Gamble, Binney & Smith, and Rollerblade described their companies' commitment to safety and the competitive advantages of their safety innovations. They underscored how their companies successfully incorporated safety into their business and marketing strategies to then see it pay off in bottom line profitability.

### **International Standards**

Following up on a request that it received from a toy industry executive at "Safety Sells," CPSC sponsored on July 18, 1995, the international conference, "Bringing Standards Together: An International Framework." This conference had the dual objectives of enhancing consumer protection and increasing international trade. Keynote speakers U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown addressed the more than 300 attendees from industry, government, academia, and consumer organizations who joined an extraordinary group of experts from the public and private sectors.

This conference emphasized CPSC's work to: 1) maintain product safety as an increasing number of consumer products are imported from the expanding global marketplace; 2) make U.S. safety standards compatible with those of our trading partners as the foundation for building strong trade relationships and creating U.S. jobs and effective markets abroad for U.S. products; 3) and reduce the substantial costs some manufacturers incur when producing different versions of the same product to meet individual standards for different countries.

## **Roundtable on Baseball Safety Equipment**

CPSC convened a roundtable meeting of interested parties on October 18, 1994, to initiate its project on youth baseball protective equipment. The purpose of the meeting was to raise awareness of injuries and deaths associated with youth baseball. More than 50 people attended, including physicians, scientists, coaches, manufacturers, and consumer advocates.

## **Nighttime Bicycle Safety**

In November of 1994, CPSC sponsored a conference on nighttime bicycle safety to explore ways of reducing the risks of nighttime riding. The conference brought together 50 distinguished bicycle experts from around the country, representing the scientific community, industry, riding groups, and representatives from federal, state, and local governments. The conference focused on the role of bicycle lighting and reflectors in reducing nighttime riding risks. In 1995, CPSC initiated a project to evaluate the current reflector technology to decide whether the agency should improve its reflector requirements.

## **Consumer Information**

### **Hotline**

Calls to CPSC's Hotline increased as a result of reengineering with more than 251,000 in 1995, up 21 percent from the year before. Nearly 63,000 calls were handled by the Hotline staff and more than 4,300 callers reported unsafe products. The agency's cost per call was reduced by about 30 percent.

The Hotline increased services to Spanish-speaking callers by increasing the Spanish-speaking staff by one-third; adding a Spanish directory of safety messages and alerts; and by adding recorded information in Spanish in addition to English on the Hotline's automated message system.

The Hotline can now forward complaints and reports about unsafe products from CPSC headquarters in minutes rather than days to field staff who use this information to identify and investigate hazardous products. A new "Hotline Query System" also went on-line in 1995 for CPSC staff to search for and instantaneously find product complaints by brand name, hazard type, geographic location, date, and 15 other fields of information available.

## **Internet**

CPSC maintains an Internet electronic mail address, [info@cpsc.gov](mailto:info@cpsc.gov), for inquiries about recalls or for reporting potential hazards. The agency's gopher server contains CPSC news releases from 1990, information on how to report a hazardous product, the CPSC Public Calendar, CPSC publications, and assistance for manufacturers, retailers and distributors on compliance with CPSC regulations and requirements. The public can also use the Internet to subscribe to CPSC's free listserver, which automatically distributes news releases, the public calendar, and other important CPSC information to subscribers by e-mail.

## **Information Technology**

CPSC continued the aggressive multi-year project the agency started in 1994 to combine its information from numerous computer systems and data bases into one comprehensive, integrated system. In 1995, CPSC connected the field and compliance divisions to the system. Also, CPSC connected the agency's field and laboratory computers to databases at the agency's headquarters using high-speed data lines. Congressional approval of the agency's request to reprogram 1995 funding in support of this effort was a key factor in the agency's progress. In 1995, the agency refined its information technology plans focusing on efforts to provide Members of Congress with the information needed to weigh CPSC's requests for the continued allocation of the necessary resources. With this support, the integrated system should be completed by the end of 1997.

## **Clearinghouse**

The National Injury Information Clearinghouse maintains reports of accident investigations, product-related incidents, death certificates, and newspaper reports. Injury data and statistics from electronic data sources and publications including hazard analyses, special studies, and data summaries are also available to respond to more than 5,000 requests each year from the American public.

## **Public Affairs**

CPSC educates and informs consumers about product safety, 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.

## **Consumer Education and Outreach**

CPSC established itself as a resource for both consumers and businesses by partnering with organizations and individuals to educate and inform consumers.

### **Poison Prevention**

CPSC, in association with the Poison Prevention Week Council, played a leading role in the annual observance of National Poison Prevention Week. CPSC's joint "Poison Prevention" program with the American Association of Retired Persons emphasized the role of grandparents in preventing poisonings to grandchildren. The program also promoted "adult friendly" child-resistant packaging.

Since National Poison Prevention Week was first observed in 1962, the annual death toll to children who accidentally swallow medicines and household chemicals has been reduced from 450 deaths in 1962 to 50 deaths in 1993.

### **Playground Safety**

CPSC produced a "Playground Safety" video featuring Thelma Sibley, the mother of a 5-year-old girl who died when her drawstring caught on a playground slide. The video was distributed to several national organizations, the media, and state and local governments. The states of California, Texas, and North Carolina mandated CPSC playground guidelines.

### **McDonald's Safety Campaign**

In an agreement with CPSC to fund a \$5 million safety campaign, McDonald's produced and distributed paid TV advertisements focusing on cycling and skating safety for children by promoting the wearing of helmets and protective gear. These spots, which are aimed at adolescents and young teens, aired beginning in the Spring during such popular syndicated children's shows as "Family Matters," "Saved by the Bell," "Out of the Blue," and "Doogie Howser." This is an ongoing program.

## **Publications**

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

*Tips for Public Playground Safety* details safety precautions that can help reduce the injuries and deaths associated with playgrounds.

*Pool Barrier Guidelines* gives guidelines that help consumers understand the risks associated with home pools enabling them to make educated decisions about which barriers to use to reduce child drownings

*Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home*, produced with the Environmental Protection Agency, assists consumers in identifying and reducing lead exposure in homes.

*What You Should Know About Using Paint Strippers*, produced with the Environmental Protection Agency, provides general information on paint strippers and safety precautions to take while using these home chemicals

CPSC developed new safety alerts on "Escalators" and "Improper Chemical Mixing "

## **Media Programs**

CPSC places a strong emphasis on reaching consumers through national, state, and local media, including national television networks, local affiliates, radio stations, and print media. CPSC has reached consumers through regular columns in *Good Housekeeping* magazine, radio spots targeted to vulnerable populations, press releases, video news releases, and press conferences.

"Consumer News," Chairman Ann Brown's regular column on product hazards and recalls for *Good Housekeeping* magazine, reaches 28 million readers each month.

In 1995, CPSC issued 176 news releases. Since 1994, regional press coverage—print and electronic media—more than doubled.



# APPENDIX A: Deaths, Injuries, and Cost 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, 1993 - September 30, 1994. 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, 1994 - September 30, 1995. This is based on data collected from a statistically selected group of hospital emergency rooms 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 as of January 1, 1990, to take into account changes that have occurred in the NEISS sampling frame of emergency departments since the 1975 sampling frame was constructed (e.g., including hospital emergency departments opened after 1975). The sampling frame was also augmented on January 1, 1991, 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, 1994 - September 30, 1995. 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, 1993 - September 30, 1994**

**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 1994, data are incomplete for the District of Columbia, Maryland, Nevada, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and New York City.**

	Product Group <sup>1</sup>	AGE GROUP <sup>2</sup>				
		Total	Under 5	5-24	25-64	65 And Over
1	Child Nursery Equipment and Supplies	67	66	1	0	0
2	Toys	19	11	4	3	1
3	Sports and Recreational Activities and Equipment	1,099	245	346	397	111
4	Home Communication, Entertainment and Hobby Equipment	34	1	10	22	1
5	Personal Use Items	235	29	29	48	128
6	Packaging and Containers for Household Products	119	31	19	58	11
7	Yard and Garden Equipment	352	8	23	166	155
8	Home Workshop Apparatus, Tools and Attachments	130	8	43	67	12
9	Home and Family Maintenance Products	49	24	10	13	2
10	General Household Appliances	68	8	6	21	32
11	Space Heating, Cooling and Ventilating Appliances	174	5	27	74	68
12	Housewares	25	9	4	11	1
13.	Home Furnishings and Fixtures	847	281	78	262	226
14	Home Structures and Construction Materials	352	39	31	134	147
15	Miscellaneous	77	23	12	31	11

**TABLE 2**

**Estimates Of Hospital Emergency Room Treated Injuries  
Associated With The Use Of Certain Consumer Products  
October 1, 1994 - September 30, 1995 \***

**Source: National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS)<sup>3</sup>**

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

Product Group <sup>1</sup>	AGE GROUP <sup>2</sup>					Estimated Mean Severity <sup>4</sup>
	Total	Under 5	5-24	25-64	65 And Over	
1 Child Nursery Equipment and Supplies	105,185	90,612	6,759	6,768	819	55
2 Toys	150,245	76,315	54,067	18,254	1,608	33
3 Sports and Recreational Activities and Equipment	4,277,124	194,300	2,976,558	1,044,519	61,225	28
4 Home Communication, Entertainment and Hobby Equipment	109,734	26,967	35,756	34,233	12,743	34
5 Personal Use Items	439,348	148,150	138,637	121,582	30,980	57
6 Packaging and Containers for Household Products	346,282	46,756	111,300	158,202	29,875	28
7 Yard and Garden Equipment	247,154	10,832	55,871	144,287	36,163	45
8 Home Workshop Apparatus, Tools and Attachments	343,493	12,738	87,560	210,011	33,167	46
9 Home and Family Maintenance Products	131,062	33,264	35,374	53,125	9,299	73
10 General Household Appliances	153,750	35,649	33,280	68,507	16,315	67
11 Space Heating, Cooling and Ventilating Appliances	146,673	44,522	41,944	47,864	12,292	61
12 Housewares	823,486	58,105	279,688	434,343	51,175	25
13 Home Furnishings and Fixtures	2,015,055	545,430	454,973	618,425	396,052	40
14 Home Structures and Construction Materials	3,417,958	523,925	1,018,045	1,215,516	659,994	37
15 Miscellaneous	213,731	52,068	94,261	51,402	15,906	46

\*Comparisons with previous Annual Report tables must be done with caution since the NEISS sample was updated as of January 1, 1990

**TABLE 3**

**ESTIMATES OF THE COSTS OF HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM TREATED  
INJURIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF CERTAIN CONSUMER PRODUCTS  
OCTOBER 1, 1994 - SEPTEMBER 30, 1995  
(IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)**

Source: CPSC Injury Cost Model<sup>6</sup> applied to NEISS injury data for the period.

PRODUCT GROUP <sup>1</sup>	TOTAL	AGE GROUP <sup>2</sup>			
		UNDER 5	5-24	25-64	65 AND OVER
1 Child Nursery Equipment and Supplies	252	207	17	24	3
2 Toys	351	149	135	59	8
3 Sports and Recreational Activities and Equipment	13,605	494	8,574	4,254	281
4 Home Communication, Entertainment and Hobby Equipment	331	55	94	118	64
5 Personal Use Items	1,240	318	376	383	163
6 Packaging and Containers for Household Products	884	88	260	437	100
7 Yard and Garden Equipment	879	25	182	534	138
8 Home Workshop Apparatus, Tools and Attachments*	1,116	29	261	706	121
9 Home and Family Maintenance Products	414	74	111	190	39
10 General Household Appliances	530	111	108	235	75
11 Space Heating, Cooling and Ventilating Appliances	476	107	135	182	52
12 Housewares	1,858	180	581	967	130
13 Home Furnishings and Fixtures	6,915	1,197	1,194	2,394	2,129
14 Home Structures and Construction Materials	12,123	1,132	2,566	4,489	3,945
15 Miscellaneous	664	109	287	199	70

<sup>1</sup>Product groups and specific products are included in each group. These products are defined in the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) Coding Manual (1994), Directorate for Epidemiology, 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 snowboarding  
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

Cigarettes, etc , lighters, lighter fluids and matches  
Clothing, all  
Coins  
Desk supplies  
Drug and cosmetic poisonings to children under 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



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

<sup>3</sup>The 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. 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

<sup>4</sup>Based 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.

<sup>5</sup>The 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. 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 1995 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
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### Consumer Product Safety Act

**Final Action:**

Interpretative regulations for reporting choking incidents to the CPSC under the Child Safety Protection Act	07/01/94	02/27/95	03/29/95	60 FR 10490
Interim rule requiring bicycle helmets to meet one of several voluntary standards		03/23/95	03/16/95	60 FR 15231
Revision of interpretative rule on reporting choking hazards to CPSC under the Child Safety Protection Act		08/14/95	09/13/95	60 FR 41799

Description	Proposed	Final	Effective Date	Resource
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**Federal Hazardous Substances Act**

**Final Action**

Bans small balls intended for children younger than three years of age and requires labeling of certain toys and games containing small parts	07/01/94	02/27/95	08/28/95	60 FR 10742
Labeling requirements for art materials presenting chronic hazards; statement of enforcement policy to explain what materials the Commission will not enforce the statute against	03/08/94	02/13/95	02/13/95	60 FR 8188
Revision of labeling requirements for certain toys and games under the Child Safety Protection Act		08/14/95	08/14/95	60 FR 41801

Description	Proposed	Final	Effective Date	Resource
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**Proposed Action:**

Requirement that large multiple tube mine and shell fireworks devices pass a performance test for stability	07/05/95			60 FR 34922
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Requirement that containers of charcoal be labeled more clearly to warn of the carbon monoxide hazard	08/10/95	5/3/96	11/3/97	60 FR 40785
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**Flammable Fabrics Act**

**Proposed Action:**

Amendments to the flammability standards for children's sleepwear in sizes 0 through 6X and 7 through 14 to exclude infant and certain tight-fitting garments from coverage of the standards	10/25/94			59 FR 53616
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Description	Proposed	Final	Effective Date	Resource
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**Poison Prevention Packaging Act**

**Final Action:**

Child-resistant packaging requirement for mouthwash with 3 grams or more of ethanol per package	05/11/94	01/24/95	07/24/95	60 FR 4536
Child-resistant packaging requirement for products containing lidocaine or dibucaine	08/04/92	04/10/95	04/10/96	60 FR 17992
Amends child-resistant packaging requirements to substitute a panel of 50-70 year old adults for the panel of 18-45 year old adults to make it easier for adults to properly use child-resistant packaging	10/05/90	07/21/95	01/21/98	60 FR 37710

Description	Proposed	Final	Effective Date	Resource
Child-resistant packaging requirements for products containing naproxen	11/14/94	07/28/95	02/06/96	60 FR 38671
<b>Proposed Action:</b>				
Exemption from child-resistant packaging requirements of certain iron-containing dietary supplement powders	04/07/95			60 FR 17660
Child-resistant packaging requirement for products containing naproxen	11/14/94			59 FR 56445

## APPENDIX C: Meetings of Substantial Interest



## Meetings Of Substantial Interest

During Fiscal Year 1995, 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:

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

## List Of Meetings

### 3M Corporation

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| February 22 | ES & other CPSC staff: possible standards for reflective material on bicycle helmets   |
| April 24-25 | ES & other CPSC staff: to observe a demonstration on reflective performance of bicycle helmets and discuss possible standards for reflective material on bicycle helmets |
| June 4      | ES & other CPSC staff: to observe a demonstration on retroreflective performance on bicycle helmets  |
| June 5      | ES & other CPSC staff: helmet issues related to retroreflectivity and extent of head coverage  |

### ACTS Laboratory

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| November 14 | Chairman Ann Brown: areas of mutual interest  |
| March 16    | HS: proposals for voluntary standard on fabric components of toys and small toy figures |

### American Academy Of Pediatrics

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| January 20 | Chairman Ann Brown & CPSC staff: data collection and information dissemination |
| April 9-10 | EXHR. CPSC's sports and recreation activities                                  |

### American Apparel Manufactureres Association (AAMA)

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| January 23 | Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff: flammability of nightwear for the elderly |
|------------|--|

### American Association Of Retired Person (AARP)

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| March 13 | Chairman Ann Brown & CPSC staff: issues affecting older persons |
|----------|---|

### American Fireworks Standards Laboratory (AFSL)

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| January 17 | HS & other CPSC staff: multiple tube mine and shell fireworks devices |
| January 26 | HS & other CPSC staff: multiple tube mine and shell fireworks devices |
| July 7-20  | EXCE: compliance with fireworks regulations                           |
| August 28  | Chairman Ann Brown: fireworks testing program in China                |

### **American Fireworks Standards Laboratory (AFSL) cont'd**

August 25-27	LS: CPSC's notice of proposed rulemaking for large multiple-tube mine and shell devices, additional regulatory action on bottle rockets, AFSL's petition on fuse burn time, and other issues
August 29	Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall: fireworks testing program in China
August 29	Office of Commissioner Thomas H. Moore: fireworks testing program in China
September 6	Chairman Ann Brown: spoke at annual meeting

### **American Furniture Manufacturers Association (AFMA)**

March 14	EC & ES: upholstered furniture flammability testing
March 28	EC: upholstered furniture flammability

### **American Gas Association (AGA)**

February 10	Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff & ES: update on AGA's work on gas water heaters
July 14	ES: CPSC's projects involving gas appliances

### **American Institute Of Research**

September 28	ES & other CPSC staff: indicator lights for ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs)
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### **American Insulation Manufacturers Association**

(see Kirkland & Ellis Law Firm)

### **American Lung Association**

October 25	Chairman Ann Brown/staff: cooperative efforts on carbon monoxide and indoor air quality issues
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### **American National Standards Institute (ANSI)**

November 18	ES: proposed modification to the Z21 standards process
November 30	ES: the CPSC electrical hazards program
April 13	ES: possible revision to the ANSI Z90.4 Bicycle Helmet Standard
April 20	ES: the CPSC electrical hazards program
June 14-15	ES: safety standards for gas-fired water heaters

### **American National Standards Institute (ANSI) cont'd**

September 12	ES	dry cells and batteries
September 13	ES.	sealed rechargeable nickel-cadmium cylindrical bare cells and lithium primary cells
September 26-28	ES	the review of the ANSI chain saw standard and proposed trimmer/brushcutter standard

### **American Pyrotechnics Association**

January 26	CPSC staff:	multiple tube mine and shell fireworks devices
June 13	CPSC staff:	multiple tube mine and shell fireworks devices
September 9	EXC & other CPSC staff:	the notice of proposed rulemaking concerning multiple tube mine and shell devices, the progress of voluntary industry standards and CPSC's concerns regarding bottle rockets

### **American Sensors**

May 16	Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff:	carbon monoxide
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### **American Textile Manufacturers Institute**

November 8	EC, EP & other CPSC staff:	CPSC's activities on upholstered furniture, children's sleepwear, and mattresses and bedding
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### **A. O. Smith Water Products**

November 22	Chairman Ann Brown, ES & other CPSC staff:	water heater safety
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### **ARCTCO, Inc.**

April 19-21	ES:	prototype all-terrain vehicles
August 8	OGC & ES:	all-terrain vehicles

### **Aronstein, Jesse (consulting engineer)**

September 28	ES & other CPSC staff:	electrical splicing devices used with aluminum conductors of the type used in residential branch circuits
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### **Association Of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM)**

December 22	EP & other CPSC staff:	range/oven fire project
May 2	Chairman Ann Brown:	courtesy meeting
May 2	Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff:	courtesy meeting

## Association Of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) cont'd.

May 24 ES. safety issues associated with the use of alternative refrigerants  
June 28 Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff: general briefing on the home  
appliance industry  
August 1 EXHR. flammable CFC replacement

## ASTM

October 3-5 ES & other CPSC staff. provisions for new and revisions to existing  
voluntary standards for nursery products  
October 25 HS: child-resistant packaging  
November 17 ES, EP & other CPSC staff: revisions to the ASTM voluntary standard  
for toy safety  
December 2 EP & EXCE. drawstrings for children's clothing  
December 5-9 ES revision to standards on playground surfacing and bicycle headgear  
December 6-8 EXHR: baseball protective equipment and other CPSC sports interests  
January 18 EP & HS. revisions to the standard for toy safety  
January 19-20 ES: provisions in voluntary standards for non-full-size cribs, toddler  
beds and bath seats  
January 24-25 EP & other CPSC staff: labeling and performance standards for 5-  
gallon buckets  
January 31 HS: child-resistant packaging  
February 2-5 EXHR & ES: soft baseballs, chest protectors, and faceguards  
February 14 EP: development of sizing standards for infants and children  
March 1 EP & EXCE: drawstrings for children's clothing  
March 16 ES: revisions to the ASTM voluntary standard for home playground  
equipment  
March 27-29 ES: provisions for new or revisions to existing voluntary standards for  
various juvenile products  
April 11 HS: child-resistant packaging  
May 18-19 HS: a standard for baseball protective equipment  
May 24 HS: proposed revisions to the voluntary standard on small toy figures  
and pompoms  
May 24 EP: proposed revisions to the voluntary standard on string lengths  
June 2 EXC & EP: development of a voluntary standard on drawstrings for  
children's clothing  
June 8-9 ES: provisions for new or revisions to existing voluntary standards for  
toddler beds, strollers, and bath seats  
June 9 HS & other CPSC staff: the development of a voluntary standard to  
address the hazard of children falling down stairs in baby walkers  
June 27 EH & other CPSC staff: proposed revisions to the Toy Voluntary  
Standard including art materials exemption, pompoms, pre-school play  
figures and other issues

**ASTM cont'd.**

June 28-30	ES: provisions for voluntary standards for home playground equipment, public playground equipment and soft contained play systems
July 18	ES: a CPSC staff request for certain revisions to the ASTM voluntary standard for bunk beds
August 30	ES: window guards voluntary standards
August 31	EXHR & ES: bean bag chair voluntary standard
September 7	ES: the adoption of the ASTM voluntary standard for bunk beds in Canada
September 20-21	ES: development of the ASTM voluntary standard for soft contained play equipment
September 27	ES: revisions to the ASTM standard consumer safety specification for bunk beds
September 28-29	ES & other CPSC staff: flammability of contents and furnishings

**Baseball Equipment Manufacturers**

October 18	Chairman Ann Brown & CPSC staff: future directions for safety in baseball
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**Bell Sports**

November 15-16	ES: to observe helmet testing and manufacturing facility and discuss technical issues associated with bike helmet performance testing
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**Bradford White Corporation**

November 22	Chairman Ann Brown, ES & other CPSC staff: water heater safety
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**BRK Brands**

April 27	ES: smoke detectors with a 10-year lifetime
June 8	ES: visited factory

**Bureau Of National Affairs (BNA)**

January 23	Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff: flammability of nightwear for the elderly
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**Calmar Dispensing Systems**

November 18	HS & other CPSC staff: PPPA protocol revisions and the poison prevention project
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### **Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detector Task Force**

October 6	EC & other CPSC staff: carbon monoxide (CO)
February 8-10	HS, ES & other CPSC staff: carbon monoxide detectors
March 8-9	EP, EXPA & other CPSC staff: carbon monoxide detectors
July 10-11	EH: carbon monoxide detectors
September 5	EC: policies and procedures relating to the work of the CO Detector Task Forces
September 6	EC & other CPSC staff: consumer and professional education relating to CO poisoning and to CO detector
September 7	ES & other CPSC staff: voluntary standards for CO detectors

### **Century Tool And Manufacturing Company**

November 30	HS & other CPSC staff: development of performance requirements to limit carbon monoxide emission from portable camping equipment
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### **Charcoal Manufacturers**

April 13	EP: the proposed warning label for packages of charcoal
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### **Chattem, Inc.**

March 2	HS. child-resistant packaging
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### **Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA)**

October 18	HS & EC: consumer use information on propylene glycol ethers requested by the CMA
November 28	Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff & HS: proposed changes to the child-resistant packaging regulations
June 15	EH & EC: CPSC's glycol ethers project

### **Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association (CSMA)**

September 28	EH & other CPSC staff. consumer products with petroleum distillates and ammonia
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### **Clopay Building Products Company**

July 17	ES, EXC & OGC: garage door safety
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### **Closure Manufacturers Association (CMA)**

December 14 Chairman Ann Brown/staff: revisions to PPPA testing protocol for child-resistant closures  
December 14 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff PPPA protocol revisions  
June 5 Chairman Ann Brown, OGC & OCR: PPPA protocol revisions

### **Coleman Company**

November 30 HS & other CPSC staff: development of performance requirements to limit carbon monoxide emission from portable camping equipment

### **Congressional Fire Services Institute**

October 18 ES: to give presentation on the National Smoke Detector Project activities and study findings

### **Consumer Federation Of America (CFA)**

July 24 Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff: courtesy call and discussion of the mission of CFA  
July 27 ES: the CFA report and model law on public play equipment and areas

### **Control Manufacturer Suppliers To The Range Industry**

January 10 CPSC's Range Fire Project Team: the mission of the range fire project and soliciting input from the control manufacturers

### **Council Of American Building Officials (CABO)**

August 15 ES: the use of ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) with heat tapes in manufactured homes

### **Curtis And Prinz**

October 11 HS: child-resistant package testing

### **D.C. Legislative And Regulatory Services**

December 13 EXCE & HS: child-resistant packaging test procedures

### **De Stefano, Charles**

October 4 HS & other CPSC staff: demonstration of a design of an automatic child restraint for shopping cart seat

**District Of Columbia Department Of Human Resources**

March 22 EC: carbon monoxide poisoning in the home and its prevention and detection

**Dow Brands**

November 28 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff & HS: proposed changes to the child-resistant packaging regulations

**Eastern States Building Officials Federation**

March 24 CPSC's Eastern Regional Center & EC seminar on "The Hazard of CO Poisoning and Its Prevention and Detections"

**ERICO**

March 2 ES: innovative methods of repairing damaged or outmoded residential electrical wiring systems

**European Consumer Safety Association (ECOSA)**

March 6-7 EP. presented CPSC staff papers on bicycles, baby walkers, infant suffocation, riding mowers and ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs)

**Fireworks Industry In China**

July 7-20 EXC: compliance with fireworks regulations

**FIREXX**

May 9 ES: a possible technological solution to the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors

**Gas Appliance And Gas Distribution Industries**

April 5-6 ES: safety standards for gas-fired appliances

**Gas Appliances Manufacturers Association (GAMA)**

November 21 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall /staff: water heater safety  
July 13 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall courtesy meeting  
July 13 Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff: introductory courtesty call and discussion of GAMA's mission

## **Gas Research Institute (GRI)**

October 27	ES: development of a test methodology for water heaters and flammable vapors
November 15	ES: information about water heater test method designs
January 9-10	ES: development of a test protocol for vapor ignition safety requirements for gas-fired water heaters
February 10	Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff & ES: update on GRI's work on gas water heaters
February 14-16	ES: development of a test protocol for vapor ignition safety requirements for gas-fired water heaters
March 2	ES: development of test matrix for development of a test protocol for vapor ignition safety requirements for gas-fired water heaters
March 30-31	ES: development of a test protocol for vapor ignition safety requirements for gas-fired water heaters
May 2	ES: field and laboratory testing of CO detectors
May 4	HS: carbon monoxide detectors action levels
May 5	ES: evaluate carbon monoxide safety standards
June 12-13	ES: development of a test protocol for vapor ignition safety requirements for gas-fired water heaters
August 8-9	ES: development of a test protocol for vapor ignition safety requirements for gas-fired water heaters

## **Gas Water Heater Industry**

October 5	ES: proprietary information about water heaters
November 22	Chairman Ann Brown, ES & other CPSC staff: water heater safety
December 2	ES: a draft schedule for producing water heaters to meet flammable vapor ignition resistance requirements being developed
January 9-10	ES: development of a test protocol for vapor ignition safety requirements for gas-fired water heaters
May 5	ES: proprietary information concerning development of technological solutions to the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapor
June 8	ES: development of technological solutions to the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors
September 18	ES: the development of new technologies to address the hazard of water heater ignition of flammable vapors

## **General Electric**

July 18	EH: design and production-related issues for ranges
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## **GSW Water Heating Company**

November 22	Chairman Ann Brown, ES & other CPSC staff: water heater safety
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**Hall, Roger (manufacturer of release bases)**

February 16 EXHR & other CPSC staff: baseball base safety issues

**Hasbro**

March 16 HS: proposals for voluntary standard on fabric components of toys and small toy figures

**Healthcare Compliance Packaging Council**

June 5 Chairman Ann Brown, OGC & OCR: PPPA protocol revisions

**Home Electrical System Fires Project Task Force**

April 20 ES: chairing a meeting, "Encouraging Electrical Inspections for Existing Homes"

April 20 ES: chairing a meeting, "Wiring Methods for Rehabilitation Work"

April 21 ES: chairing a meeting, "Innovative Technology" (for reducing home electrical systems fires)

**Home Playground Equipment Manufacturers**

September 20 ES: home playground equipment

**Hunter Douglas Window Coverings**

May 1 EXCE & other CPSC staff: prospective safety standards for corded window covering products

**Ideal Industries**

June 1 ES & other CPSC staff: aluminum wire connectors

**Impact Imports**

April 25 EC & other CPSC staff: industry concerns regarding the proposed rulemaking for children's sleepwear

**INCHCAPE Testing Laboratories**

May 24 HS: a new computer model

**International Hospitals Group**

April 7 HS. child-resistant packaging

**International In-Line Skating Association (IISA)**

December 19 Office of the Chairman & other CPSC staff: educating consumers on safe use of in-line skates

**INTERPHEX USA**

March 28 HS: speaking at conference on "Responsible Packaging: Child-Resistant, Senior-Friendly, and Tamper Evident Packaging and the Consumer"

**Joint Commission On Sports Medicine And Science**

February 24-26 EXHR: CPSC perspective on safety standards for athletic equipment

**Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association (JPMA)**

October 27 Chairman Ann Brown/staff & other CPSC staff: used cribs

**Kirkland & Ellis Law Firm**

**(representing American Insulation Manufacturers Association)**

February 13 EXCE & OGC. the "Interim Safety Standard for Cellulose Insulation" and the issue of Federal preemption of state and local building codes regarding cellulose insulation

March 23 OGC: preemption issue on cellulose insulation

**KOMAR**

January 23 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff: flammability of nightwear for the elderly

**Lego Company**

October 13 EXCE: compliance with the new labeling requirements for toys and games under the Child Safety Protection Act of 1994

March 16 HS: proposals for voluntary standard on fabric components of toys and small toy figures

**Manning, Selvage And Lee**

December 6 EC: the Commission's carbon monoxide detection project

**Maryland State Building Officials Association**

November 3 ES: carbon monoxide detectors

**Maryland State Fire Marshal, Other State Officials**

February 14 ES: CPSC's Home Electrical Systems Fires project and the reduction of home fires by the application of the new National Fire Protection code, NFPA 73 Residential Electrical Maintenance Code for One-and Two-Family Dwellings

**MAYTAG**

July 17 EH: design and production-related issues for ranges

**McNeil Consumer Product Company**

March 2 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff: additional information on the PPPA protocol revision

**MGC Corporation**

October 24 OCR & other CPSC staff: heat and smoke detectors

**Mountain Safety Research**

November 30 HS & other CPSC staff: development of performance requirements to limit carbon monoxide emission from portable camping equipment

**National Association Of Home Builders Research Center**

March 2 ES: innovative methods of repairing damaged or outmoded residential electrical wiring systems

**National Association Of Regulatory Utility Commissioners**

February 27 ES. to provide an overview of CPSC's Home Electrical Systems Fires project

### **National Association Of State Fire Marshals**

June 22 ES & EC observe CPSC's upholstered furniture testing

### **National Electrical Code (NEC) Committee Panel 20**

December 12-14 ES: comments with regard to revising the National Electrical Code

### **National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)**

September 28 ES & other CPSC staff: indicator lights for ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs)

### **National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)**

November 2-3 EC: NFPA proposed recommended practice for the installation of carbon monoxide detectors  
December 13 ES & other CPSC staff: smoke detectors  
March 23-25 ES: to consider proposals for amendments to the Residential Electrical Maintenance Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings  
May 22-25 ES. National Electrical Code  
June 15-16 ES & EXPA: the development of a new school-based injury prevention curriculum for children  
July 20 ES electrical box support for ceiling fans  
July 21 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff. children's sleepwear flammability standards  
July 21 Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff. children's sleepwear flammability standards  
September 19 Chairman Ann Brown/staff & other CPSC staff: proposed amendments to standards for children's sleepwear

### **National Fire Protection Research Foundation**

August 16 EC: to present information on the history of CPSC's activity in the area of carbon monoxide detection

### **National Fireworks Association**

January 26 CPSC staff: multiple tube mine and shell fireworks devices

### **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)**

April 3-4 ES: attended a "Lifesavers Conference on Highway Safety Priorities" workshop titled "Bicycle Helmets in the Riding Environment"

**National Operating Committee On Safety For Athletic Equipment  
(NOCSAE)**

November 29            Office of the Chairman & EXHR: NOCSAE standards-setting procedures and an upcoming NOCSAE face guard standard

**National Playground Safety Institute**

October 11            ES: panel discussion of repair and retrofit techniques to correct the most common hazards found on public playgrounds

**National Safe Kids Campaign**

July 14                Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff: courtesy call and to discuss mutual public safety concerns

**National Safety Council**

April 18               EXHR: possible national contest for ways to prevent children from falling out of windows

**National Symposium Of Patient Compliance**

May 9                 HS: child-resistant packaging

**Nelson-Weather-Rite, Inc.**

November 30        HS & other CPSC staff: development of performance requirements to limit carbon monoxide emission from portable camping equipment

**New York Fire Prevention**

October 4            ES: CPSC's project on home electrical systems fires and the new residential electrical maintenance code for one and two family dwellings

**New York Office Of Consumer Affairs**

October 20           Chairman Ann Brown: matters of mutual interest

**Non-Prescription Drug Manufacturers Association**

March 2               Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff. additional information on the PPPA protocol revision

June 5                Chairman Ann Brown, OGC & OCR: PPPA protocol revisions



**Nordyne, Inc.**

November 22 Chairman Ann Brown, ES & other CPSC staff: water heater safety

**Organization For Economic Cooperation And Development (OECD)**

October 2-7 OEX: Committee on Consumer Policy

**Outside Interested Parties**

October 7 Chairman Ann Brown & CPSC staff: mobile soccer goal safety  
October 11-12 ES & other CPSC staff: innovative technology for detecting/monitoring hazardous electrical wiring, and wiring methods to correct unsafe conditions  
October 18 Chairman Ann Brown & CPSC staff: baseball protective equipment  
November 9 Chairman Ann Brown & CPSC staff: bicycle nighttime risks  
November 15 Chairman Ann Brown & CPSC staff: falls from windows  
December 15 EXCE: enforcement of the statute-mandated labeling requirements for certain toys and games  
January 23 Chairman Ann Brown & other CPSC staff: flammability of nightwear for the elderly

**Pennsylvania Gas Association**

April 5 EC: speaking on "CO Detection Technology: Home Detection" and "CO Policy Roundtable: Federal Perspective"

**Range Manufacturers**

November 2 EP & other CPSC staff: CPSC's project on range/oven fires

**Rheem Manufacturing Company**

November 22 Chairman Ann Brown, ES & other CPSC staff: water heater safety

**Riding Mower Industry**

October 19 Chairman Ann Brown & CPSC staff: riding mower safety plans

**Riding Mower Working Group**

October 7 ES: the riding mower industry's willingness to address hazards associated with the runover of small children, and the runaway of mowers operated on steep slopes

### **Salant Children Apparel**

September 28            Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff: the proposed changes in the sleepwear regulation for children

### **Sambrook Research International**

March 6                ES, EP & other CPSC staff: child drowning incidents in 5-gallon buckets

### **Schwartz, Bernard**

October 3             ES & OGC: petition on portable electric air heaters

### **Sleep Products Safety Council**

January 23            EP & EXCE. the mattress/bedding fire project

### **Snell Memorial Foundation**

June 28                Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff: Snell Foundation activities and areas for collaborative activities

June 28                EXHR: CPSC's activities on bicycle helmets

August 17             ES: bicycle helmet testing and tour the Snell helmet testing laboratories

### **Society Of The Plastics Industry**

June 13                ES: the use of plastics in electrical appliances

### **Solar Protective Factory, Inc.**

July 27                Office of the Chairman, EXHR & other CPSC staff: sun protective clothing

### **SOUTHCORP**

November 22         Chairman Ann Brown, ES & other CPSC staff: water heater safety

### **Southwest Research Institute**

January 20            ES: bicycle helmet test procedures

### **Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association**

October 21            EXCE: speaking on the Commission's reporting regulation and CPSC's "sports agenda"

**Springborn Laboratories**

September 19 Chairman Ann Brown: courtesy meeting

**State Industries**

November 22 Chairman Ann Brown, ES & other CPSC staff: water heater safety

**Steorts, Nancy Harvey**

January 12 EC: carbon monoxide detectors  
April 17 EC: carbon monoxide detectors  
May 16 Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff: carbon monoxide  
June 14 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall: courtesy call

**Strombecker Corporation**

November 17 Chairman Ann Brown: toy gun issues  
July 27 Office of the Chairman & OCR: toy gun safety

**Sunbeam Plastics**

November 15 HS: speaking at technical conference on PPPA protocol revisions

**Takoma Park , Maryland Babe Ruth League**

December 15 EXHR & other CPSC staff: youth league baseball safety

**The Andersons**

December 13 EXCE & HS: child-resistant packaging test procedures

**This End Up**

May 3 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall: Good Housekeeping Article

**Tin Information Center of North America**

October 26 ES & other CPSC staff: seminar on tin compounds as fire retardant additives in consumer products

**Toy Biz, Inc.**

September 22 ES & EXC: a new baby product

### **Toy Manufacturers Of America (TMA)**

October 16-18	EXCE & other CPSC staff: Quality Assurance Conference on U.S. and international safety standards, the relationship between toy safety and quality assurance; manufacturing/quality control, and an overview of management systems/ISO 9000
February 16-17	EXCE: presentations at Toy Fair on toy regulation requirements and retailers responsibilities regarding product recalls
March 16	HS. proposals for voluntary standard on fabric components of toys and small toy figures
June 28	Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff. courtesy call and discussion of mutual goals of public safety
September 6	Office of the Chairman & ES harmonizing U.S. and Canadian toy safety regulations

### **Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL)**

January 11	ES: UL electrical standards
February 8	ES & other CPSC staff: Christmas tree and decorative lighting outfits
April 19	ES: thermoplastics and push-in terminations
April 25-26	EXHR, ES & EXPE: UL council meetings on consumer product safety activities and future plans
June 1	ES & other CPSC staff: aluminum wire connectors
June 7	Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff. courtesy call and discussion of mutual goals of public safety
June 7	ES facility overview
August 21	ES: the status of various consumer product safety activities
September 28	ES & other CPSC staff: indicator lights for ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs)

### **University Of Southern California, Head Protection Research Lab**

January 27	ES & other CPSC staff: observe bicycle helmet test procedures and discuss helmet safety issues
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### **Upholstered Furniture Action Council (UFAC)**

April 27-29	Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall: addressed UFAC Press Breakfast at the International Home Furniture Market
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### **U.S. Public Interest Research Group (USPIRG)**

July 11	Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff: courtesy call and discussion of consumer protection interests
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**Water Heater Innovations, Inc.**

November 22 Chairman Ann Brown, ES & other CPSC staff water heater safety

**Williams And Jensen**

April 25 OGC & OCR proposed PPPA protocol amendments  
May 11 OGC & OCR proposed PPPA protocol amendments  
May 18 OGC & OCR proposed PPPA protocol amendments  
June 1 Commissioner Thomas H. Moore/staff PPPA protocol revisions  
June 1 Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall/staff PPPA protocol revisions  
June 5 Chairman Ann Brown, OGC & OCR PPPA protocol revisions

**Zlan, Ltd.**

March 10 ES & other CPSC staff. Zlan's "Circuit Overload Protection" and "Current Rating Verification" systems

## APPENDIX D: Log and Status of Petitions and Applications

## **Log And Status Of Petitions And Application**

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 1995 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, 1995
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**Consumer Product Safety Act**

CP 94-1	Bernard Schwartz	Requests development of a safety standard for portable electric heaters	Petition Denied 7/28/95
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**Federal Hazardous Substances Act**

HP 93-1	New York City Dept. of Consumer Affairs	Requests rule establishing backyard play sets requirements	Decision Pending
HP 94-1	Charles De Stefano	Requests issuance of child seat standards for shopping carts	Petition Denied 2/14/95
HP 95-1	Thomas Rhodes	Requests development of a safety standard for protective batting helmets	Decision Pending
HP 95-2	Barry Russell	Requests issuance of a rule to ban acetone packaged for household use in one-gallon containers	Petition Withdrawn 9/14/95
HP 95-3	Roger Wabeke	Requests ban of sulfuric acid drain cleaners	Decision Pending

**Poison Prevention Packaging Act**

PP 94-1	Douglas Ingoldsby	Requests exemption from child-resistant requirements for unsweetened iron containing powders	Petition Granted 4/3/95
PP 95-1	Michael LeBlanc	Requests exemption of Dr. Tichenor's antiseptic from child-resistant packaging requirements for mouthwash containing ethanol	Petition Denied 4/6/95



# APPENDIX E: Voluntary Standards Activities

## Voluntary Standards Activities

During 1995, the CPSC staff provided technical support to 40 voluntary standards projects. The staff actively participated in 10 projects, each of which is summarized below. Also presented below are other significant activities including highlights of progress on monitoring level projects and the status of efforts to speed up and increase openness in the standards development process while improving conformance to existing standards.

### A. Participation Level Projects -- Summary of Activities

#### 1. Baseball Equipment

**Purpose** - To create new or improved national consensus safety standards for baseball/softball bases, face guards on baseball batting helmets, soft baseballs, and chest protectors for young batters.

**Highlights** - On 10/18/94, CPSC sponsored a meeting of industry, government, special interest groups, and other concerned parties to strongly advocate reducing baseball injuries by making baseball equipment safer. New voluntary standards initiatives resulting from the meeting are summarized below:

- o **Face Guards for Batting Helmets** - a new "Task Group on Standard Specification F910 for Face Guards For Youth Baseball (ASTM F 8.53.04)" was established in 12/94 to improve safety provisions of the standard. During the year the Task Group continued the process of revising the standard.
- o **Baseball/Softball Bases** - Immediately following CPSC's 10/18/94 meeting, an ASTM "Task Group on Softball/Baseball Bases" was established. During 1995 the Task Group continued to discuss the research needed before safety standards for bases can be developed. Sources of funding for research were being sought.
- o **"Soft" Safety Baseballs/Softballs** - A task group was formed in 12/94 to develop a new performance standard, a follow up meeting was held on 2/2/95 to discuss proposed requirements. Several test methods were drafted and discussed.
- o **Chest Protectors for Batters** - ASTM Task Group F 8.55.02 on baseball/hockey chest protectors was established in 12/94; a follow up meeting was held on 2/5/95 to review injury data and relevant literature. A small conference on sports-related chest impact deaths was held at a 5/95 ASTM meeting. Three researchers report that they are in the process of developing possible test methods for determining padding effectiveness

## 2. Buckets, Five Gallon

**Purpose** - To develop a national consensus labeling standard to replace the current ASTM ES26-93 emergency labeling standard, in order to minimize the drowning hazard to young children.

**Highlights** - A new ASTM safety standard for cautionary labeling of five-gallon buckets (ASTM F1615-95) was approved on 9/16/95. The required label is printed in English with a pictogram of a child falling into a bucket of liquid; a prohibition symbol is over the picture. An appendix to the standard shows the warning label with the same picture but includes the warning in Spanish, in addition to the English. This replaces the emergency standard which had been in effect.

## 3. Camping Equipment

**Purpose** - To develop American National Standards Institute (ANSI) national consensus performance requirements to limit carbon monoxide emissions and to improve warning labels on portable camping heaters

**Highlights** - ANSI and the Canadian Gas Association (CGA) are working to develop harmonized safety standards for these appliances, as well as other gas appliances.

- o Background - In 11/94, CPSC staff hosted industry engineers to a laboratory visit to share information and discuss the technical feasibility of developing safety performance requirements to decrease CO poisoning. It was agreed that, subject to technical feasibility, requirements will be developed promptly and used concurrently with developing an ANSI national consensus safety standard.
- o Laboratory testing started during the reporting period to determine product operating characteristics in enclosed spaces.
- o In 7/95, CPSC staff provided industry engineers with a preliminary summary of general test findings; testing on camping heaters was continuing at the end of 1995.

## 4. Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors

**Purpose** - The purpose of this project is to: (1) revise the UL 2034 carbon monoxide detector safety standard, (2) obtain national consensus to the Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) standard through the ANSI process, (3) develop a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Recommended Practice for the installation of CO detectors, and (4) advocate that model building code organizations adopt CPSC staff proposals to install CO detectors in all new homes.

## Highlights -

- o The UL 2034 standard was revised in 3/95 as follows:
  - (1) detailed instructions to advise residents what to do in the event of an alarm are required to be listed on the product itself and in the manufacturer's instruction booklet,
  - (2) a reset button, allowing the resident to turn off an alarm while ventilating and investigating the source of the CO, must be on the detector,
  - (3) UL listed CO detectors are required to ignore low level concentrations of CO (less than 15 ppm) for at least 30 days without sounding a full alarm,
  - (4) a simulated "rush hour" test, whereby the detectors will be subjected to elevated levels of CO for a one-hour duration, twice a day, must be met by the detectors, and
  - (5) manufacturers of UL listed CO detectors will be required to indicate on their product, instruction manual, and on product packaging the minimum CO level at which their detectors will alarm.
- o Marking Requirements/Instructions became effective 6/1/95; all others become effective 10/1/95
- o CPSC staff continued participation with industry and other interested parties in meetings of the CO Detector Task Forces to determine, among other things, the need for continued modification of the UL standard.
- o In 5/95, the NFPA general membership voted to send the proposed NFPA Recommended Practice for the installation of CO detectors and fuel gas detectors back to the NFPA 720 Committee for further work.
- o CPSC staff attended the International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO) meeting in 2/95 to defend the CPSC staff proposal to require the installation of CO detectors in all new homes. An identical proposal came to the floor before the CPSC proposal and, after discussion, was disapproved by the ICBO committee CPSC withdrew its proposal based on the Committee's disapproval of the identical proposal.