

Flame Jetting Awareness Log of Meeting

Date: Thu, Jan 18, 2018

Time: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EST

Meeting: GoToMeeting/Telecon

Attendees:

- Lead: Scott Ayers (CPSC)
- CPSC Attendees: Jonathan Kent, Kristen Talcott, Jacqueline Campbell, Sandra Inkster
- Other Attendees: Andrew Minister, Anna Sitek, Bill Tobin, Brandi Neifert, Cheryl Atkinson, Connie McNamara-Jeffery, Erin Helling, Guy Colonna, Jean Francois Lalande, Josh Dinaburg, Jyllian Kemsley, Ken Roy, Kerwin McNamara, Kimberly Hoarle, Leigh Ann Price, Len Morrissey, Lisa Hartman, Margrett Lewis, Mary Kirchoff, Maureen Kiley, Ray Garant, Shaan Rishad

Introduction/Group's Purpose:

- Continue to share knowledge and awareness on the hazards of flame jetting.
- Flame jetting is an issue that affects many product categories. Goal is to bring stakeholders together and develop a strategy to increase awareness

Update on Activities:

ASTM work:

- There are a number of efforts for performance standards for FMDs on multiple containers.
- Gasoline containers –hopefully about 1 month out from balloting draft standard. Scott can answer more questions on this offline. This has been an ongoing effort
- FMDs on disposable fuel containers (e.g. fuel for portable fireplaces) – not as far along. Working on first draft of standard. Believe that they will go to ballot after gasoline containers.

ACS work:

- Making video about flame jetting in general (not specifically classrooms, but will be used for teachers). Turnover in staff has led to some delays.
- Working on website (currently online), and an article within Chemical division. Link to website will be provided to group after meeting

Other work:

- American Burn Association: National Burn Awareness week (theme: flame burns) first week of February. Will be on Capitol Hill on Feb 7 to show support for HR919 bill. Working on increasing awareness.
- HR919: Bill to require gasoline containers and other portable fuel containers to have flame mitigation devices (would mandate ASTM standard or mandate CPSC to develop rule).

Introduced to the House, currently in Commerce Committee. Bill has not gone through markup process yet.

- Teachers Science Association: have noted reported flame and burn incidents involving methanol. 2 years ago NTSA put out their first safety alert related to menthol open flame tests: Don't do this on desks. Several months ago advisory board put out information sheet on safety tips for alcohol. Encourages use of safer alternative and risk mitigation. Trying to raise level of awareness, push for increased safety training. Problem: no national database to track incidents, data is hard to come by.
 - Scott agrees with data problem – CPSC also tracks incidents via news reports. Would be great long-term to identify a better way to capture and track data. We are also not hearing about close calls. Awareness of hazard of flame jetting in general, including public is needed to reduce similar incidents in home environment
 - Suggestion to come up for video for teachers/instructors. Scott's understanding is that ACS video will meet this need. Preservice training for teachers would also be important. Problem that teachers still do not know about the hazard, despite availability of information. Challenge is that teachers may not be trained in chemistry, so may not be tied into relevant groups. Awareness needs to happen at all levels.
- NFPA paper/presentation in June: CPSC collaboration and Bob Zalosh have separately submitted papers to NFPA. Plan to bundle presentations.

Brainstorm on General Awareness Strategies:

Concepts and ideas on flame jetting that are important in general sense:

- Use caution when dealing with open flame
- Task group will be convened to define fundamental message

Potential methods of raising awareness:

- Social media
- Viral videos
- Target K-12 classrooms: in addition to teacher training, add information about dangers into the teaching curriculum for students.
- Fire prevention officers also need training to help raise public awareness and to identify incidents and track within their database.
- Suggestion to get definitions into NFPA standards
- Could involve Boy Scouts as well

Challenges:

- Need to distinguish issues related to gasoline, which has a low flashpoint. Problem with external vapor ignition, not flame jetting. Don't use gasoline as an accelerant.
- A one-size-fits-all approach will not work. Need to include both general and product-specific information. Targeted to different groups based on context. Want to share knowledge without discouraging individual efforts.
- Identifying incidents – there are several challenges related to confirming whether a flame jetting incident has occurred. NFPA data report from 2014 does not have enough

information/resolution to distinguish flame jetting from other types of fires (data is from NFRS). Difficulty of quantifying deaths and injuries from flame jetting vs. all fuels and combustible liquids.

Data Tracking:

- Those tracking data: Appalachian State University has a list. Ken has an informal list from NSTA members and employees, sometimes from the press but these are not always accurate. Margrett Lewis is compiling data. CPSC is compiling data.

Action items:

- Connie MacNamera volunteers to make a 45 second video for YouTube. Work with American Burn Association. Kim will connect with Connie on this effort. Video will be different from ACS. Targeted to teachers via social media, including Instagram.
- Fundamental Message Task group to come up with general message that would cut across industries. Fundamental message. Task group members: ABA, Connie MacNamera, Leanne Price, Cheryl, Scott or someone else from CPSC. Scott will convene something offline.
- Scott will reach out to fire prevention officers to try to get them more involved in the group.
- ABA website development, related to the efforts for burn prevention week. Kim welcomes assistance with webpage. Anyone who is interested in helping, contact Kim directly or contact Scott to get connected with Kim
- Anyone with data on incidents should send the data to Scott, who will work with CPSC epidemiology. Scott will pursue additional information on incidents and compile sharable data into an all-encompassing report.
- If anyone has any updates before the next meeting, send a reply all e-mail to the group so that group can continue collaboration.

Next Meeting:

- Suggestion for another meeting in 6 months. Scott will send a Doodle Pool when it gets closer to the summer.
- If anything is developed by a subgroup, it will be shared with group as available.