

**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
LOG OF MEETING**

SUBJECT: 2018 Model Performance in CRR Symposium

DATE OF MEETING: April 9, 2018

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Arthur Lee, ESEF

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: July 2, 2018

LOCATION: Hyatt Regency | Reston, Virginia

CPSC ATTENDEE(S):

Arthur Lee, Directorate for Engineering Sciences (ES)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S):

Open to the public

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Participated on a panel discussion: National Research Insights. Presented an update to the National In-Home Smoke and CO Alarm Survey. See attached presentation.

Link to symposium program

https://strategicfire.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Vison2020_Program_032618.pdf

No follow-up schedules or needed.



Vision 20/20



Model Performance in Community Risk Reduction

SYMPOSIUM 2018

National Smoke Alarm and CO Alarm In-Home Survey

Arthur Lee
Directorate for Engineering Sciences
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

This survey presented in this presentation are those of the CPSC staff and do not necessarily represent the views of the CPSC.

Background - Why do the survey?



- The top action item identified at the March 2015 Smoke Alarm Summit: "Conduct a national census (or representative sample in-home survey) on the prevalence and characteristics of smoke alarms."
- One key recommendation identified for the survey was "Survey must get into people's homes." This method provides more accurate information than can be obtained by phone.
- There is no current information on CO alarm usage in the United States.
- CPSC conducted the last and only national in-home smoke alarm survey in 1992. (Smoke Detector Services Survey, Product Safety Council, October 1992)

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Project Objectives



The National Survey is intended to get a snapshot of where smoke and CO alarms are installed, what their operating condition is and how consumers think alarms are supposed to work.

This is intended to provide:

- Accurate information to alarm manufacturers and building code developers about the current state of alarm coverage.
- Current information to life safety educators and advocates to help target messaging for prevention programs.

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2018 National Smoke and CO Alarm Survey



- Project launched in 2016
- Contractor - EurekaFacts (Rockville, MD)
- Survey approximately 1,200 homes
 - Funding sponsors CPSC, USFA, NFPA, NEMA, and NIST
- Collect information on consumer hazard awareness and consumer behavior
- Collect information on installed smoke/CO alarms
- Evaluate non-functional alarms

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Survey - Occupants



- Number of occupants?
- Ages of occupants?
- Level of education?
- Race?
- Hispanic or Latino origin or descent?
- Deaf or hard of hearing?
- Physical, mental, or other health condition?
- Smoke cigarettes, cigars, or pipes?
- Income level?

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Survey - Consumer Knowledge and Behaviors



- Familiarity with testing
- Frequency of testing
- Reason for not testing
- Knowledge of working smoke alarms in the home
- Knowledge of reason for non-working alarms
- Reason for disconnected or unpowered alarms
- Knowledge about installing, maintaining, and replacing alarms
- Awareness of importance to have alarms
- Reasons alarms are not installed in the home
- Knowledge of effects of levels of carbon monoxide (CO)

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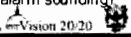
Survey - Past experience

Smoke Alarm History

- Accidental fires in the past 12 months?
 - How was the fire discovered?
 - Did any of the smoke alarms sound?
- Have alarms gone off when there was no fire?
 - If so why?

CO Alarm History

- CO alarm sounding in the past 12 months?
- What was the response to the CO alarm sounding?


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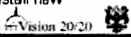
Survey - the Alarms

Documenting the Alarms

- Record Smoke and CO alarms locations
- Photograph each alarm
- Measure the distance from closest smoke alarm to stove or cooktop

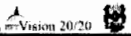
Testing the Alarms

- Conduct test button and aerosol tests for smoke alarms.
- Use test button for CO alarms
- Replace batteries or restore AC power and repeat test
- Collect non-responding alarms and install new replacement alarms


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Next Steps

- Notice posted in the Federal Register website on March 20, 2018
 - Please provide comments by May 21, 2018
 - www.FederalRegister.gov
 - Search "Survey on Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms"
- Submit survey package to Office of Management and Budget
- Begin survey in Fall 2018
- Initial findings late 2018
- Report in 2019


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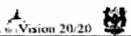

SYMPOSIUM

RECOMMENDATIONS

Wait and See in 2019

Evaluate survey information and determine if changes to alarms and building codes can improve life safety.

Provide survey data for life safety educators and advocates to develop target messaging for prevention programs.


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