

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

SUBJECT: 2018 International Code Council

DATE OF MEETING: April 15, 2018

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Susan Bathalon, EXHR

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: July 16, 2018

LOCATION: the Columbus Convention Center, Columbus OH

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Susan Bathalon, EXHR

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S):

Open to the public


SUMMARY OF MEETING:

The International Swimming Pool and Spa code (ISPSC) hearing discussed swimming pool and spa proposals to improve the ISPSC code. CPSC staff was part of the public audience in the hearings. This proposal open action hearing and panel was organized by International Code Council.

General public hearing comments on certain proposals will occur in mid-October. No CPSC staff follow-up needed.



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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

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the CPSC and do not necessarily represent those of the DHS or any other agency, unless the context of the Commission.

Background - Why do the survey?




- The top action item identified at the March 2016 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 Survey: Survey Report by Stephen F. Davis Group 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

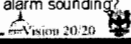


Smoke Alarm History

- 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

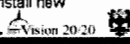


Documenting the Alarms

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

Testing the Alarms

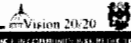
- Conduct test button and aerosol tests for smoke alarms-
- Use test button for CO alarms
- Replace batteries or restore AC power and repeat test
- Collect non-responding alarms and install new replacement alarms




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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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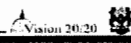


RECOMMENDATIONS

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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