

NFA Expo and Annual Conference Notes

Location: Wichita, KS

CPSC Attendees:

Aaron Orland
Rodney Valliere
Priscilla Verdino

Monday 9/10/2018:

CPSC Staff attended a presentation by Mark Anderson, Senior Government Relations Advisor, of Kelley Drye and Associates. Staff answered questions about the Fireworks NPR, and cleared up misconceptions about the proposed rule.

Staff attended presentations on New Fireworks Technology.

Staff attended the product demonstrations.

Tuesday 9/11/2018:

Staff answered questions about the CPSC and Fireworks Testing at the CPSC Booth at the Trade Show.

Staff attended a presentation on a New Explosive Testing. Dr. Graham Walsh presented a new technique for determining if a firework was a 1.4G device or a 1.3G device. The testing data presented showed that most consumer fireworks devices below 12% metallic fuel content would pass the DOT requirements for the 1.4G shipping category.

Staff attended the product demonstrations.

Wednesday 9/12/2018:

Staff attended the AFSL General Meeting.

Staff attended The International Symposium on Fireworks presentations.

Staff attended the product demonstrations.

Thursday 9/13/2018:

Staff attended the NFA Annual Business Meeting. Staff answered questions about Fireworks testing, and the Fireworks NPR.

Staff answered questions about the CPSC and Fireworks Testing at the CPSC Booth at the Trade Show.

Staff attended the product demonstrations.

Friday 9/14/2018:

Staff answered questions about the CPSC and Fireworks Testing at the CPSC Booth at the Trade Show.

Staff attended the product demonstrations.

During the Conference, staff were approached by members of the NFA Board of Directors and asked if the CPSC would be willing to reconsider the metallic fuel ban in break charges. The NFA stated that they had new data that showed that there was no hazard below approximately 10% metallic fuel. Most of this data is similar to what was presented by Dr. Walsh on Tuesday. The data is a comparison of the "explosivity" and mass detonation hazard for various powders used as break charges including, but not limited to, Black Powder, Perchlorate based Black Powder, Flash Powder, mixtures of Flash and Back Powder from 1% to 15% metallic fuel, Whistle Powder, and various "Hybrid Powders." Staff stated that the CPSC had

specifically requested data and test methods from NFA during the comment period, and after the Oral Hearing, but were not sure how to accept the data at this point. The NFA Board Members suggested sending the data along with an endorsement from NFA, APA, and AFSL to the Acting Chairman of the CPSC.