

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Log of Meeting

SUBJECT: WCMA Steering Committee Meeting

DATE OF MEETING: March 12, 2019

LOCATION: Teleconference

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Rana Balci-Sinha

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: March 14, 2019

CPSC ATTENDEES: Rana Balci-Sinha, Howard Tarnoff

NON-CPSC ATTENDEES: Contact WCMA for the list of attendees

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Purpose of the meeting was to gather feedback on the new requirements that went into effect and potential ideas for scoping prior to opening the standard in mid-June 2019. Ralph Vasami talked about the publicity that the new standard received, visiting stores revealed that stock products are cordless in major retailers. Question was raised on what can be done to educate at point of sale. Ed Krenik said that they have done webinars, however, they are limited on enforcing retailers to do x, y, z. Autumn Moore (RILA) agreed to remind their members to follow the ANSI standard. Rachel Weintraub and Howard Tarnoff talked about the lack of clarity on the type of products (stock vs custom) in some online sellers. Rana Balci-Sinha and Howard Tarnoff talked about the lack of warnings for custom products on online sales, which is required in the 5.1.3 labeling requirement of the current standard. Particularly large multi-vendor Ecommerce marketplaces type of online sellers need guidance. Ralph Vasami stated that he is open to a guidance document for online sellers; there was major agreement on the need for educating online sellers. WCMA will initiate discussions with Amazon & Alibaba; CPSC staff to follow. Overall, several manufacturers said that there were no substantially negative feedback on the custom product requirements (e.g., default cord length and default wands) and the transition to the new requirements went smoothly.

Rigid cord shroud requirement will be added to the standard as an appendix first and be included in the main body of the standard in the next revision. Linda Kaiser asked what the next steps are on eliminating the hazard from custom products such as eliminating cords from certain types of window coverings (e.g., horizontal blinds.) Ed Krenik mentioned that all new investments are going into cordless (and other safe options) not to corded products. Howard Tarnoff said we would like to see: (1) a discussion on segmenting by size and/or type in the next meeting and being open to cord retractors as an option (which is not allowed for stock products); (2) investigating complete inoperability of the product if tension device is not installed (current requirement is partial inoperability), and (3) considering cordless as default operating system for Custom orders. Ralph Vasami requested participants submit ideas by e-mail. Standard is scheduled to be opened in mid-June 2019. Ralph will search for availability via email for the next call.