

**LOG OF MEETING  
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**SUBJECT:** ANSI C18 Subcommittee on Portable Cells and Batteries (Includes, General and Specifications and Safety Standards)

**LOCATION:** NEMA – 1300 N. 17th St., Rosslyn, VA 22209

**DATE:** October 02 and 03, 2019

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** Huy Le, ESEF

**COMMISSION ATTENDEES:** Doug Lee, EXHR  
Huy Le, ESEF  
Jay Kadiwala, ESEF  
Jill Hurley, ESHF (Teleconference)

**NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:**

Steven Wicelinski, Duracell, ANSI C18-0, Chair  
Khaled Masri, NEMA Program Manager, ANSI C18 Secretary  
Carin Stuart, Energizer, ANSI C18-6 Chair  
Marc Boolish, Energizer, ANSI C18-4 Chair

Kris Jatana, MD, Nationwide Children's Hospital, Ohio State University  
Charles Monahan, Panasonic  
Jody Leber, CSA Group  
Laurie Florence, UL LLC  
Shima Hirotaka, Hitachi Maxell  
Terao Yoshiki, TC 35 Chair, Panasonic  
Doug Golde, Fisher-Price  
Jeff Becker, Micropower Battery Co.  
And others

**MEETING SUMMARY:**

**During the two days of meetings, the subcommittee discussed various topics on general, specifications, and safety requirements for each ANSI C18 standard.**

At the previous ANSI C18 Safety Working Group for Button/Coin Cell Pictograms and Packaging meeting in September, Dr. Jatana continued to support the same labeling for non-lithium button cells, which is used for lithium coin cells, because there have been deaths associated with these ingestions. The text Dr. Jatana proposed includes, "Death and serious injury can occur." Some of the other working group members were not familiar with the deaths reported in the data and wanted to review this data before

determining the text that should be used for the warning label. Dr. Jatana then provided injuries and deaths reports and a letter from a parent of an infant catastrophically injured from an esophageal perforation for the working group to review. The parent indicated that eight years later, the child needed to have a below-the-knee amputation and is expected to need a kidney transplant in the next several years.

During the subcommittee meeting, Dr. Jatana discussed the injuries reports and the letter from the parent of the infant catastrophically injured from an esophageal perforation that he provided to the working group. According to Dr. Jatana, the data, Non-lithium button battery injury data: the National Capital Poison Center, literature and the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System, will be published shortly in a medical journal. The data providing details of 18 fatal and life-threatening injuries were provided in the first table, four of which were confirmed deaths from non-lithium chemistry button cells. The details of 15 probable fatal and life threatening cases were provided in a second table and the details of 29 incidents of reported severe cases was reported in a third table. Some of the working group members were not aware of the provided incident data. This discussion will carry on to the next meeting and the data will be provided to the rest of the subcommittee for review.

CPSC staff continued to support keeping “serious injury” and the “!/WARNING” safety alert symbol and signal word in the warning label as a minimum because it is a possible outcome that should be warned against. CPSC staff also supports the use of the word “death” since there were several deaths attributed to non-lithium ingestions in the data provided to the working group.

The SC continued discussion on lithium battery safety in products. Previously, CPSC staff and others supported adding a recommended guideline to use a systems approach for safe design and use of products. The goal is to add the recommended practices to an ANSI C18-5 annex. A task group was formed to outline this effort and is led by Ms. Stuart. The task group will continue to develop the recommended guide.

Contact Khaled Masri, [REDACTED], for ANSI C18 minutes for other topics and attendees.