

**LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES**

SUBJECT: Meeting of the ANSI Z535.7 Subcommittee on Warnings in Electronic Media

DATE OF MEETING: June 30, 2021

PLACE OF MEETING: Virtual/Teleconference

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Tim Smith (ESHF)

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Tim Smith (ESHF)

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Contact ANSI for attendee list

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

This meeting of the ANSI Z535.7 Subcommittee was led by the Chair of the subcommittee, Eric Boelhouwer. The meeting was one in a series of recurring, monthly subcommittee meetings to develop a new ANSI Z535-series warning standard for electronic media.

During the meeting, the subcommittee discussed the current draft of the Z535.7 standard; specifically, the following:

- *Section 7, Appearance:* This section includes color requirements, including references to the ANSI Z535.1 standard pertaining to safety colors. CPSC staff raised the question of whether references to “black” and “white” should refer to “safety black” and “safety white,” to be consistent with the other Z535-series standards and the other color references to “safety” versions within the draft document. The consensus of opinion was that this was not needed, particularly given the color limitations on electronic screens. Staff also recommended that the type size requirements, which only stated that safety message text *shall* be at least as large as other text, also state that the text *should* be larger. The group agreed. Lastly, there was a discussion of “duration” requirements that specify that messages should be present long enough for users to read at normal reading speed. The group discussed, and agreed to include, additional considerations that one could incorporate to allow users additional time, such as pause or acknowledgement buttons, or rewind capability. Staff also questioned whether reading speed should be based on a specific age or grade level, because using the average reading speed would effectively prevent half of readers from finishing reading the message. The group agreed to change “normal” reading speed to “expected” reading speed.
- *Property Damage Messages:* This brief section includes requirements specific to messages that involve property damage only, rather than safety messages.
- *References:* This section identifies references that are cited in the draft standard.

- *Annexes*: The group discussed Annex A, which includes an explanation of signal words, symbols, other highlight conventions, and similar topics; Annex C, which includes translations of signal words; and Annex D, which includes risk estimation and signal word selection. These three annexes are nearly identical to analogous annexes in the Z535.4 and Z535.6 standards, with minor revisions to include references to electronic media.

The subcommittee agreed to discuss Annex B of the draft standard, which focuses on principles and guidelines on the design and maintenance of safety information in electronic media, at its next monthly meeting.