LOG OF MEETING

SUBJECT: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

DATE: May 20-22, 1996

PLACE: Hynes Convention Center, Boston, Massachusetts

COMMISSION ATTENDEE: James F. Hoebel, Engineering Sciences

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Over 10,000 members and guests of NFPA, including representatives of fire services, Federal. state, local, and foreign governments, academia, testing laboratories, manufacturers and distributors, voluntary standards groups, consumers, virtually every segment of the fire protection community.

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: James F. Hoebel

SUMMARY: This was the 100th annual meeting of NFPA, and was a celebration of the organizations accomplishments over the years. NFPA has overcome many obstacles in the past to become a financially strong professional organization. The meeting started with a morning plenary session, featuring status presentations from the President and the Chairman of the Board. The keynote speaker was James Lovell, who talked about Apollo 13. The session concluded with an indoor fireworks demonstration organized by Disney World.

The Monday lunch included statements by Harvey Nyland, Deputy Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Carrie Brown, US Fire Administrator, and James Hoebel, representing Chairman Ann Brown of CPSC.

The remainder of the meeting was spent attending technical sessions and touring the fire safety exhibit. Technical subjects monitored included flame retardants, fire safety education, residential fire alarms, automatic sprinkler systems, CO detection research, and fire data. Mr. Hoebel provided a presentation of "CPSC Uses of Fire Data", during the NFPA Research Section's session on Fire Data.

The fire safety exhibit included booths describing current products of fire safety equipment manufacturers. Every smoke detector company had a booth. The prime topic discussed was 20/20's recent show on smoke detectors.

Informal contacts were made with many people in the fire community, and most included discussions of current CPSC projects.