

CPSA 6 (Rev. 11/96)
No. 11/26/96
Product:
Ex:
F:

LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Meeting With Wayne Morris of AHAM to Discuss
Current CPSC Electrical Portable Appliance Activities

DATE OF MEETING: November 26, 1996

PLACE: AHAM Offices, Washington, DC

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Hammad Ahmad Malik *HAM*

DATE OF ENTRY: November 27, 1996

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Andy Stadnik, ES
William H. King, ESEE
Anna Luo, ESEE
Hammad Malik, ESEE

NON COMMISSION ATTENDEES:
Wayne Morris, AHAM
Sandy Ruitter, UL
Maureen Cislo, PSL
Tracey Moorehead, Mintz Levin Law Firm Representing AHAM

SUMMARY OF MEETING: Andy Stadnik introduced the CPSC staff attendees and then gave a brief introduction of the CPSC involvement in appliance safety. Mr. Stadnik then turned the meeting over to Bill King to brief AHAM on major activities the CPSC is currently engaged in relating to appliance safety.

Mr. King gave a briefing on activities planned for portable cooking appliances. Mr. King introduced Anna Luo as being the lead engineer in the technical activity on cooking appliances. Mr. King indicated that Anna is reviewing the current voluntary standards to try and gauge whether or not they can be improved. Mr. King noted plans to examine new popular products, i.e., bread-making machines and ice tea makers.

Mr. King indicated the plan is to meet and keep in contact with U.L and AHAM technical staffs.

Wayne Morris indicated that he would like a clarification of what is included in the CPSC countertop cooking appliance activity-- in particular the inclusion of slow cookers.

Bill King and Anna Luo explained that slow cookers are included, however, microwave ovens are not. It was added that electric waffle irons and fry pans may be examined over the course of the project.

Wayne Morris inquired as to what type of cost analyses are conducted on voluntary standard proposals submitted by CPSC staff. Mr. Stadnik explained that cost-benefit considerations are made depending on the severity of the issue, and the process is controlled in part by the regulations governing CPSC operations in 16 CFR Part 1031.

Maureen Cislo enquired on how does CPSC obtain IDI's and consumer reports. Mr. Stadnik explained the process of how CPSC receives reports.

Bill King then explained the CPSC plastic appliance enclosure activity and that the CPSC engineering staff noted some apparent misapplications of polymeric materials. The CPSC staff proposal for the modification of UL 746C is to require more flame retardant materials for unattended, portable, household appliances.

Mr. Morris wanted to know more about how the proposal came about.

Bill King explained that both individual standards for products involved in incidents plus any generic standards are reviewed. Mr. Stadnik indicated that based on a few incidents the staff can make engineering assessments that permit CPSC to propose changes to voluntary standards.

Bill King added that while many potential ignition sources exist within an appliance enclosure, the commonality for appliances is the enclosure itself and the ability of the enclosures to limit flame spread.

In responding to a question Mr. King explained that the cost information at this time was anecdotal for this proposed standard change.

A meeting between CPSC staff and AHAM members in February 1997 was suggested to follow up on the progress of these issues.