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LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Bicycle Reflector meeting with Helmut Zwahlen

DATE OF MEETING: August 1, 1996

PLACE: Consumer Product Safety Commission, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Mark Kumagai, ESME MK

DATE OF ENTRY: January 28, 1997

COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Pary Davis	Directorate for Engineering Sciences
Sandra Inkster	Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences
Mark Kumagai	Directorate for Engineering Sciences
Robert Ochsman	Directorate for Engineering Sciences
Celestine Trainor	Directorate for Engineering Sciences

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Dr. Helmut Zwahlen

Summary of Meeting

Dr. Helmut Zwahlen requested a meeting with the CPSC staff to discuss bicycle reflector test methods and bicycle treatments. He said the Federal Highway Administration has the capability to superimpose a photo into a driving simulation. He suggested that the CPSC staff investigate using this system to evaluate various bicycle countermeasures and correlate the results with the actual planned field testing.

Dr. Zwahlen believes that the driver's recognition of the bicycle is a critical factor in the performance of a countermeasure. The driver must detect and, within a short amount of time, recognize the hazard to make the appropriate maneuver. He believes that the most effective countermeasure is one that allows increased detection and instantaneous recognition.

Staff and Dr. Zwahlen discussed methods to vision test subjects. He used college aged subjects and described various tests such contrast vision testing. Dr. Zwahlen discussed the results of his study on peripheral vision and daytime conspicuity of florescent targets. He also discussed the problems of color recognition at night. His study showed that a target area of at least 6"x 6" was required for a driver to see color within a reasonable time.

cc: Colin Church, EXHR
OS (2)
ES
File