

LOG OF MEETING

U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER MARY SHEILA GALL

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SUBJECT: Issue related to children's sleepwear

DATE OF MEETING: April 2, 1996

PLACE: CPSC Headquarters/Room 722

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Patsy Semple

DATE OF ENTRY: April 3, 1996

COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall
Patsy Semple
Dennis Wilson

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Steve Loftin, Director of Quality Assurance, Wm. Carter Co.
Joseph Pacifico, Executive Vice President, Marketing,
Wm. Carter Co.

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Mr. Steve Loftin, requested the meeting to discuss three points:

- the current stay of enforcement for children's sleepwear,
- the proposed amendments to the standard and,
- their interest in assisting with education and information on sleepwear safety.

Mr. Loftin stated that the current stay of enforcement is detrimental to consumers. Consumers misuse products. Consumers do not understand what is going on with the current stay...they do not understand the concept of tight fit nor why sleepwear is made of polyester. It is time to reach a conclusion and go forward.

Though Carter's originally was opposed to the amendments three years ago, they have changed their view because they accept that consumers will continue to use and abuse cotton products. In general, they support the staff recommended proposals except for the age limit for exemption at 6 months. They support a 9 month size.

Carter's feels the proposed 6 month size off will only cause more confusion with manufacturers and will be even more difficult to

enforce. They divide their products into three sizing groups:

newborns: 3-6-9 months
infants: 12-18-24 months
toddlers: sizes 1-4

Is staff trying to target a size of a garment or the age of the infant? Carter's states that a six month old infant will be wearing a 9 month size or larger. Carter's acknowledges that there is some disagreement within the industry between a 9 or 12 month size, but their main point is that everyone agrees 6 months is a very confusing point to propose an exemption.

Finally, Carter's wants to help get information out to consumers and has offered their network of professional organizations and industry contacts to develop a broad information campaign...even at the point of sales. They are willing to take an active role through a trade and consumer education program.