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LOG OF TELEPHONE CALL
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Upholstered Furniture Petition - Proposed UL Component Recognition Program

DATE OF CALL: February 7, 1994

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Linda Fansler, ESME

COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE: Linda Fansler, ESME LF

NON-COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE: Pravinray D. Gandhi
Senior Staff Engineer
Underwriter's Laboratories Inc.

SUMMARY OF CONVERSATION:

The National Association of State Fire Marshals has petitioned the Commission to issue a flammability standard for upholstered furniture. As part of the petition process, the Commission requested comments regarding the petition.

Although Mr. Pravinray Gandhi of Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) did not comment on the petition, he was contacted for further information on a proposed UL program. The goal of this program is to provide design engineers with component flammability data such that they can accurately predict whether fabric and filling material combinations will pass CAL TB-133 when assembled into upholstered furniture. (CAL TB-133 is a full-scale, composite test.)

This proposed UL program, titled "Component Recognition Program", would rely on a classification system of fabrics and filling materials using standardized test conditions. UL would then advise manufacturers as to what combinations of fabrics and filling materials would meet the requirements of CAL TB-133. UL sees this as a lower cost alternative to CAL TB-133. The program is still in its infancy.

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