LOG OF MEETING

DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: UL Industry Advisory Conference (IAC) on UL 6500

DATE OF MEETING: January 11, 2001 **PLACE:** Mirage, Las Vegas NV

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Troy Whitfield, Mechanical Engineer, CPSC

DATE OF ENTRY: January 22, 2001

ATTENDEES: To be provided when available

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Isaac Papier of Underwriters Laboratories Inc chaired the meeting of the UL Industry Advisory Conference (IAC). After introductions, the agenda was reviewed, an additional item was added, the order discussed, and the agenda accepted.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) was in attendance for the discussion of television stability tests to be incorporated into UL 6500 - *Audio/Video and Musical Instrument Apparatus for Household, Commercial, and Similar General Use.* The staff was also there to respond to a letter composed by the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA) refuting the data CPSC collected during the follow-back study.

Mark Granata of UL discussed the stability requirements; slide test, force stability test, and the 10^0 static tip stability test. The current standard contains requirements for products with a mass of 18 kg (~40 lbs) or more, or products with a 48 cm (~19") CRT or larger. The UL proposal would change the mass requirement to 7 kg (~15.5 lbs) which would include more products for stability testing. Mr. Granata mentioned that the force stability test protocol requiring a 60N force was based on the 95^{th}- percentile 5 year-old child. Products outside the anthropometric reach of the child with no 'graspable' surface within reach would be exempt from the 60N test requirements, but the 90N force test - or 13% of the product weight (whichever is less) - would still be applicable if the product weighs 25 kg ~55 lbs) or more. The current height requirements are set at 150 cm (~59"). These changes would also be incorporated into UL 1492 *Audio-Video Products and Accessories.* There were some questions as to exactly what products would require testing. UL representatives stated they would develop a table for the group to review. The table would explain which products required testing and which tests were applicable.

Dave Wilson of CEA presented information on reported incidents involving television tip-over by citing incident reports used in the CPSC television tip-over study. During the presentation, CEA expressed concern as to whether the proposed changes to the standard would have prevented the incident. While recognizing that televisions can tip over, based on the CEA review and presentation, the suggested solution was that an education program was needed. The program would inform the public on the appropriate placement of televisions and proper behavior around televisions

to prevent incidents of tip-over. CEA expressed concern that the proposed requirements could bring about changes in the television that may actually increase the likelihood of television tip-over incidents. The potential changes in television design could provide additional grasp points for children or create increased weight in the set that may cause a more severe injury. For these reasons, CEA advocates an education program.

The CPSC representative presented a paper in response to the CEA letter and presentation. The data collection system was explained and the different databases available at CPSC were discussed. In the paper, the statistical methodology and some additional information were supplied. Of particular note was the distribution of incidents involving televisions on dressers and carts or stands. CPSC recognizes that education is an important aspect to addressing the television tip-over, however, it is not seen as the only solution. During the discussion, the CPSC staff mentioned that work has been done with furniture manufacturers on dresser stability and there is currently an ongoing effort with UL and the cart/stand manufacturers. The staff believes that the television manufacturers need to look at their product as well. One suggestion is to have television manufacturers and cart/stand manufacturers meet and develop a uniform base, or footprint, to help insure the correct placement of televisions on carts and stands. While the initial dresser stability issue was in response to children climbing or pulling themselves up on the drawers, in many cases, there was a television on top of the dresser the child was trying to access.

The discussion was concluded with CPSC staff agreeing to provide the incident data to UL staff. CPSC staff also agreed to review the various databases for any other 'audio/visual' related cases/incidents with other products that would be included in the scope of UL 6500. UL staff reminded the group that this IAC meeting was strictly for guidance and discussion of issues and that no decisions on the direction of proposals would be made during the meeting. It was agreed that a thorough review of the CPSC data and the CEA presentation would be needed before any decision on the direction of the force stability test could be rendered.