

**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Log of Meeting**

CPSA 6 (b)(7) Cleared
JS/2/01
No Mfrs/PrvtLbrs or
Products Identified
Excepted by _____
Firms Notified, _____
Comments Processed. _____
MAY 31 P 1:52
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Multi-Purpose Lighters

DATE OF MEETING: April 26, 2001

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Barbara J. Jacobson

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: May 25, 2001

LOCATION:

Renaissance Park 55 Hotel, San Francisco, California

CPSC ATTENDEE: Barbara Jacobson, Directorate for Health Sciences

NON-CPSC ATTENDEES: Edward Lewiecki, Chairman, F15.02, David Baker, General Counsel, Lighter Association, Inc., Members of Subcommittee F15.02

**SUMMARY OF MEETING: ASTM Subcommittee F 15.02
(Safety Standards for Lighters).**

Reports:

The Final Draft International Standard 9994 will go to ISO for circulation and balloting. If approved, the standard may be published by the end of 2001. The TC61 members have approved the New Work Item Proposal for a new standard on on utility lighters.

The latest ASTM/ANSI F400-00 has been published.

Canada

Health Canada will not be proceeding with their multi-purpose lighter legislation this year due to other pressing issues and lack of manpower.

Europe

The draft European standard for lighter child-resistance is on hold for a year due to the lack of market surveillance/enforcement of existing standards. France will submit a law to the European Commission to make the enforcement of lighter standards a responsibility of EU member states.

Japan

A study was conducted by the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry to determine if changes to the Japanese lighter safety standard are needed. The study tabulated the total number of domestic and imported lighters sold in Japan for the years 1993 to 2000. It also tabulated categories of lighter injuries and the causes of such injuries for years 1993 to 1999. The results indicate that the accident rate is very low. On that basis, they do not plan to change their safety standard.



CPSC Report

The CPSC representative stated that there have been 5 lighter recalls since the ASTM Subcommittee meeting last April. The most recent recall was 13 million disposable lighters imported from China. These lighters were recalled because the child-resistant mechanisms were ineffective. A 4-year old girl died in a fire started with one of the lighters.

This year's CPSC Recall Round-Up targets products associated with fire deaths and injuries. At the top of the list are cigarette lighters without child-resistant mechanisms. Also included are previously recalled products including faulty extension cords, toasters, halogen floor lamps, dishwashers, and old hair dryers. To help conduct this year's round-up, CPSC has enlisted the help of fire marshals, fire departments, state and local officials, and national and state health and safety organizations, including the Congressional Fire Caucus. Fire departments across the country are serving as collection sites. More information about the campaign is available on the CPSC web site, www.cpsc.gov.

The CPSC representative summarized the results of a CPSC study that concluded that the Safety Standard for Cigarette Lighters has been very effective in reducing deaths and injuries associated with child play fires. (Copy of handout sheet attached.)

Review of the draft utility lighter standard

The latest version of the draft utility lighter standard was reviewed and a number of revisions were made. The CPSC representative and others expressed concern that the "Instructions and Warnings" section was not consistent with the requirements for cautionary labeling under the Federal Hazardous Substances Act. The CPSC representative offered to revise this section and send it to the Chairman of the Utility Lighter Task Group for review by the members.

Next Meeting

The Subcommittee members voted to accelerate the development of the utility lighter standard. A special meeting will be held in Chicago in late September or October to finalize the standard for submission to ASTM for processing.

The next regular meeting of Subcommittee F15.02 will take place on April 18th and 19th, 2002 in New Orleans, Louisiana.