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U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
LOG OF MEETING

SUBJECT: Global Harmonization for determining the Flammability of Aerosols

DATE OF MEETING: 4/5/01

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Warren Porter

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: 4/6/01

LOCATION: 1900 K St. NW Washington D.C.

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Warren Porter, LSC; Mary Toro, CE

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE (S): See Attachment

SUMMARY OF MEETING: This was one of a sries of meetings addressing the global harmonization of flammability testing and defining "flammable" and "extremely flammable" for self pressurized sprays (aerosols).

The Chemical Specialty Product Association (CSPA) showed a number of fire demonstrations, conducted by the NFPA, on large quantities of Level 1, 2, and 3 aerosols. These represented potential fire scenarios in warehouses. With proper sprinkler installations, the fires were contained and extinguished prior to the whole lot being consumed.

CSPA showed data indicating the correlation of measured flammability

parameters with theoretically calculated values. On the whole, the correlation appeared to be good.

Plots of deflagration density, that is grams/cubic meter of product in an enclosed space, against lower explosive limit showed a sharp deviation indicating a break between non-flammable and flammable. To divide the spectrum into non-flammable, flammable and extremely flammable, CSPA's approach was to consider that currently manufactured aerosols would fall into a 1/3, 1/3, 1/3 distribution.

In general the data they presented appears to be indicative of being capable of defining flammability definitions.

The methods of testing have yet to be subjected to an interlaboratory study to assess variation. This is being planned based on the outcome of negotiations with the Europeans.