

**LOG OF MEETING**

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared  
No. 36/21/01  
Products Identified  
Excepted by  
Firms Notified,  
Comments Processed.

CPSC/SEC OF THE SECRETARY  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

**SUBJECT:** Discuss issues related to AFSL's testing of fireworks and standards. 011

**DATE OF MEETING:** January 19 - 21, 2001

**DATE OF LOG ENTRY:** February 07, 2001

**PERSON SUBMITTING LOG:** Neal G. Gasser, Chemist, Division of Chemistry

**LOCATION:** Huntsville, Alabama

**CPSC ATTENDEE:**  
Neal G. Gasser, Chemist, Division of Chemistry (LSC)

**NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S):**

<b>John Rogers</b>	<b>John Conkling</b>	<b>Chi Kay Cheung</b>
<b>Jesse Berrera</b>	<b>Bob Fletcher</b>	<b>Larry Brown</b>
<b>Stephen Shaffer</b>	<b>Tom DeWille</b>	<b>Tim Brainerd</b>
<b>John Stringer</b>		

**SUMMARY OF MEETING:**

**Meeting Topics:**

- Reviewed of the minutes from the previous Committee meeting (Sept. 8-10, 2000). Minutes were adopted with minor changes to the "Agenda Item #2 - 2. Crossette Stars in Roman Candles".
- Reviewed the report on Committee recommendations to the Board of Directors.
- Committee decided that in all of the general provisions in all of the standards, that any graphics must not indicate use of the product other than is intended (Firecrackers)
- Reviewed the AFSL Compliance Rate Charts for calendar year 2000, of the China Fireworks Quality Improvement Program (QIP). Total Cases - 2,772,527; Complying Cases - 2,408,992 (87 %); Non-Complying Cases - 363,5345 (13 %)
- Various aspects of the standard for Reloadable Tube Aerial Shell Fireworks Devices were reviewed and proposed amendments were made. Proposed amendments are waiting the approval from the AFSL Board of Directors.
  1. Shells can only be made with Brown Kraft Paper (other colors not permitted) and shells are limited to only having "Warning" labels (no graphics, artwork, nose cones, fins, or other ornamentation. Reason: Graphics, artwork, nose cones, fins, or other



ornamentation can make the shell appear to be a "Finished" device, which can mislead the consumer into lighting the fuse without placing the shell in the launch tube.

2. "Warning" labels on reloadable aerial shells can only have dark blue or black text on a white background. The full warning label must not appear on the individual shells.
3. Description of Effects the Company Name or Brand Name is permitted to appear on a reloadable aerial shell only in dark blue or black text on a white background without a border and with a maximum text size of 8/64". Artwork, logos, or graphics are not permitted on the shell. NOTE: Federal Hazardous Substances Act (FHSA) requires on each device/retail package to have the company name & common name of the device: "Name, and Common fireworks 1.4G, UN 0336."
4. Modify 2-1.8.5 - Shells shall not contain more than 60 grams (2.1 ounces) of total chemical composition including lift charge, effects, and break charge per shell. (Reason: To be consistent with the U.S. Department of Transportation regulations.)

○ Standard for Cautionary Labeling – Referral Labels were reviewed and proposed amendments were made.

1. Discussed whether Appendix B, Cautionary Labeling, of the AFSL Std. should be amended to allow "Referral Labels". That is, the principal display panel bears only the signal word, hazard statement, and a statement referring the consumer to a different panel for additional cautionary labeling.
2. Proposed amending **Appendix B II** to read: "The signal word and statement of hazard must appear on each principal display panel of the fireworks item. In addition, each principal display panel must bear either the remaining cautionary labeling information or instructions to "carefully read cautionary statements on \_\_\_\_\_ [insert side, rear, or back panel, as appropriate]. The full cautionary labeling statement, including signal word and statement of hazard, required by the AFSL standard for the product, must appear on one principal display, side, rear, or back panel."
3. Every AFSL Standard under "Product Design" gets a new section. The section will state the following:

"Items subject to this standard must not bear a name or graphics that suggests a use of the product inconsistent with the "Cautionary" label instructions."

4. The Committee noted that the Consumer Product Safety Commission requires that all hazardous substances (including fireworks devices) must bear the common or usual name of the hazardous substance or of each component, which contributes substantially to its hazard. This requirement appears in Section 2(p)(1)(B) of the Federal Hazardous Substances Act. The Committee noted that the AFSL Standards currently do not contain this provision. Thus, the Committee decided to amend Chapter 4, Labeling, of each standard to include a provision stating "The name 1.4G Consumer Fireworks" must appear on the label of each product.

○ Cautionary Labeling for Rocket Fountains

1. Considered whether the Standard for Fountains should be amended to include specific performance and labeling requirements for devices that have a fountain effect but resemble rockets in their construction. The Committee determined that these products were appropriately classified as fountains and subject to the requirements of the Fountain Standard.
2. Voted to amend the Standard for Fountains to include a specific label for the products, as follows:

“CAUTION: EMITS SHOWERS OF SPARKS. USE ONLY UNDER CLOSE ADULT SUPERVISION. FOR OUTDOOR USE ONLY. STICK FIRMLY IN GROUND IN AN UPRIGHT POSITION. REMOVE CAP TO EXPOSE FUSE. DO NOT HOLD IN HAND. LIGHT FUSE AND GET AWAY.”

○ Standard for Sparklers

1. Change standard title to “Standard for Hand Held Sparkling Devices.”
2. Modify definition of Sparkler: “This standard applies to the manufacture of the traditional category of hand held items (such as Dipped Sticks, Sparklers and Morning Glories) consisting of a spark producing pyrotechnic composition, either coated on a wire or wood or bamboo stick, or contained in a tube which is consumer during function and typically attached to a stick.”
3. Slag Drip Test - change from 0.5-meters to 1.0-meter above a sheet of white paper. The Committee believes the one-meter height more realistically represents the height at which the devices will be used, rather than the ½ meter height currently used in the test
4. 2-1.12 - change the word “uniform“ to “continuous”

○ Standard for Aerial Effects in Novelty Devices

1. The Committee wanted to develop a provision that would limit the projection of aerial effects in Novelties to 3 meters, and determine if the provision should be applied to both vertical and horizontal directions or to only one direction.
2. Three different novelties were tested to observe their performance. The Committee decided to limit the distance of projected effects to a three-meter radius (hemisphere) from point of ignition. However, due to the wide variety novelties the Committee decided to defer action to perform additional testing with a wider variety of novelty products.

○ Labeling for Devices that Shoot Inert Material into the Air

1. New label – For products/devices that propel inert components into the air, such as, streamers, confetti, flags, etc. These devices must have no secondary pyrotechnic effect (i.e.-break charge), and must be labeled or marked “CONSUMER FIREWORKS, 1.4G”. New label says – “WARNING: SHOOTS PROJECTILES INTO AIR”. If the device only shoots confetti, streamers, etc. into the air (no paper

disk, cups, etc.) then the label does not require the use of the word "PROJECTILE", but can use the words such as confetti, streamers, etc.

○ Firecrackers and Firecrackers Designed to be Operated in Water

1. The Committee decided that Section 2-3.4 of the Standard for Firecrackers should be amended to clarify the meaning of the term "or bear a name that resembles banned fireworks devices such as M-80's Salutes, Silver Salutes, Cherry Bombs, etc." The Committee amended Section 2-3.4 to read: Individual firecrackers with an outside diameter greater than  $\frac{1}{4}$ " (6.3 mm) must be individually marked "Consumer Fireworks, 1.4G"
2. The Committee considered whether a firecracker device whose name and/or graphics on the label indicate that the device is designed to be operated in water, should be certified under the Standard for Firecrackers. The Committee concluded that marketing firecrackers for use in water could increase the potential risk of injury associated with the device because the only way to light the fuse is to hold it in hand before placing it into water. This practice is contradictory to the labeling instructions for firecrackers, which reads "Do not hold in hand. Lay on Ground. Light Fuse and Get Away."

○ The Committee deferred any further action on defining the term "Report in Aerial Effect" pending additional work on developing a test procedure to determine the force associated with "Reports in Aerial Devices".

○ The Committee deferred any additional action on a drop test for Booby Traps (Pulling Tricks) pending the development of information regarding the types of packaging presently used for the products and the type internal packaging currently used to prevent detonation in the event the product is dropped. Possible Certification of the Drop Test for Booby Traps (Pulling Tricks) – The 3-meter Drop Test will be performed at the factories with a QIP Technician present to certify compliance with the 3-meter drop test. If the manufacturer is not in the QIP, a certified technician must be present to certify compliance with the 3-meter drop test.

○ The Committee deferred action on developing a test procedure to determine the force associated with "Reports in Aerial Devices".