

LOG OF MEETING

DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

CPSC/OFC OF THE SECRETARY
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2004 FEB 26 P 2:43

SUBJECT: Fire research issues of mutual interest

DATE OF MEETING: January 20, 2004

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: February 12, 2004

SOURCE OF LOG ENTRY: Margaret Neily, ESFS *MM*

LOCATION: Room 410A at CPSC Headquarters

CPSC ATTENDEES: Margaret Neily, ES, and Dale Ray, EC

NON-CPSC ATTENDEES: See attached list of attendees.

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Mr. Chapin, General Manager, Fire and Construction SBU, Underwriters Laboratories, described the changes in his organization to grow their business in the area of fire safety by meeting clients' needs, maintaining an outward focus, and working without product bias. Mr. Chapin has recently joined the Fire Safety Council (an organization of federal agencies and other organizations with strong missions to reduce residential fire deaths) because of interest in public safety issues and assuring the relevance of UL activities. Margaret Neily, ES, has recently become a member of UL's Fire Council.

In support of the CPSC rulemaking for an open flame standard for mattresses, UL recently conducted a series of full-scale mattress tests for the CPSC/Sleep Products Safety Council (SPSC) interlaboratory study of the test method in California TB 603. UL also plans to participate in the full round-robin tests.

UL has also offered to gather experts and stakeholders together with the expectation of developing a consensus on a package of upholstered furniture fire safety standards to reduce losses from cigarette and open flame ignition of upholstered furniture. Members of the group include UL, the American Furniture Manufacturers Association, The Fabric Coalition, and the National Association of State Fire Marshals. Mr. Chapin requested that a representative from CPSC also participate. Mr. Ray, CPSC Project Manager for Upholstered Furniture, offered to have CPSC staff attend, primarily to observe, and suggested that input from the group could be helpful if submitted in the next couple of months. Time is of the essence because the staff schedule for preparing a decision package for the Commissioners is short.

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MM
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