

**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
LOG OF MEETING**

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**SUBJECT:** Meeting with the CSA/Z21 Joint Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on Gas Fired Infrared Heaters

**DATE OF MEETING:** November 4, 2003

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** David R. Tucholski

**DATE OF LOG ENTRY:** 11/12/2003

**LOCATION:** Hilton Garden Inn Cleveland Airport, Cleveland, Ohio

**CPSC ATTENDEE:** David R. Tucholski

**NON-CPSC ATTENDEES:** See attached roster

**SUMMARY OF MEETING:**

A working group that was established in 1998 to study portability coverage for low- / high-intensity infrared heaters provided the TAG with an update. The working group suggested creating a separate standard that would cover portable infrared heaters instead of incorporating the portable heaters into the existing standards for low- / high-intensity infrared heaters (ANSI Z83.20 and ANSI Z83.19, respectively). It was proposed that the new standard would be based on the current standard for patio heaters (CSA Requirement 5.90) and would also incorporate items from the Canadian standard for gas-fired portable infrared heaters (CAN1-2.23-M82).

There was a great deal of discussion over which portable heaters would be covered by the new standard. For example, some direct-mount (i.e., tank-top) portable heaters are currently covered by the construction heater standard (ANSI Z83.7-2000). Depending on the definition of a "portable infrared heater", this same construction heater could be covered by the new standard. Unless both standards have the same combustion requirements, there would be a conflict between the standards.

For heaters rated at 15,000 Btu/hr and less, the standard for patio heaters has a confined room test, similar to that for camping heaters. When the heater is operated in a 100 cubic foot room at air exchange rates of 0.5, 1.0, and 1.5 air changes per hour, the carbon monoxide cannot exceed 100 parts per million (ppm) and the oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) cannot be depleted below 16 percent. Heaters rated at more than 15,000 Btu/hr are tested in a large open room having a normal oxygen supply and the CO concentration cannot exceed 0.08 percent (800 ppm) in an air-free sample of the flue gases. Staff suggested that any new standard for portable heaters should not limit the enclosed room combustion test to heaters rated at 15,000 Btu/hr or less. Several TAG members augured that consumers were misusing their products by brining them indoors and therefore the heaters should not be tested to the stricter combustion test. However, staff reminded the TAG that CPSC views the indoor use of portable heaters as a foreseeable misuse, which is supported by our in-depth investigations. Prior to the TAG meeting, TAG members were provided with a copy of CPSC's hazard sketch of tank-top propane heaters.

Based on the discussions during the meeting, the TAG decided not to create a separate standard that would cover portable infrared heaters. Instead, the TAG decided to make the current CSA standard for patio heaters (CSA Requirement 5.90) into an ANSI approved standard. Also, the TAG will review the Canadian standard for gas-fired portable infrared heaters (CAN1-2.23-M82) and determine if it can be incorporated into the existing low- / high-infrared heater standards. Finally the infrared heater TAG will inform the parent committees (Z21/81 Committee and CSA TC) that portability coverage will not be addressed by the infrared heater TAG for direct-mount heaters and that the construction heater TAG and/or the camping heater TAG should address this issue.

**Attendee List of the Meeting of the Joint Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on Gas-Fired Infrared Heaters Held on November 4, 2003 at the Hilton Garden Inn Cleveland Airport in Cleveland, Ohio**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
P Baker	Maxitrol Canada
P. A De Meritt	Combustion Research Corporation
S. Fleet	Detroit Radiant Products
B. Genisol	Gas-Fired Products, Inc.
D. Glover	Brass Craft Manufacturing
G. Horich	Schwank Ltd.
S. Krsikapa	Canadian Standards Association
P. Lengauer	Reznor
N. Mattson	Modine Manufacturing Company
M. Murdoch	Roberts Gordon, Inc.
M. Thomas	Advanced Combustion Technologies
J. Vancak	Calcana Industries Ltd.
B. Vandrak	Enerco/Mr Heater Corporation
E. Willms	Superior Radiant Products Ltd.
R. Sekerchak	Dormont Manufacturing Co.
D. Bixby	GAMA
J. Gorman	CSA International
R. Cowan	Infrared Dynamics

**LOG OF MEETING  
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES**

SUBJECT: Step Ladder

DATE OF MEETING: November 18, 2003

PLACE OF MEETING: Conference call at CPSC Headquarters, Bethesda, MD.

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Mark Kumagai, ESME *MK 12/8/03*

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Mark Kumagai, Thomas Caton, Carolyn Meiers

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Harold Stillman

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

This conference call was requested by Mr. Stillman to discuss step ladder safety. Mr. Stillman was concerned with the number of injuries involving step ladders. He referenced a European study that suggested step ladders could be made more stable. He also commented that training and improved warning labels could reduce injuries. CPSC staff suggested that he approach the ANSI committee with his findings. Mr. Stillman requested an update of the estimated NEISS injuries and IDIs of ladder incidents.

*12-10-03*

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