

LOG OF MEETING

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared
12/1/98
No. Mfrs./PrvtLbrs or
Products Identified
Excepted by _____
Firms Notified, _____

SUBJECT: Testing of specific categories of fireworks, review of the provision that they will be tested for, and the review of specific Fireworks Standards by the American Fireworks Standards Laboratory (AFSL) Standards Committee

DATE OF MEETING: February 20/22, 1998

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: December 1, 1998

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

LOCATION: Ramada Inn, 8400 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD, 20814

**CPSC ATTENDEE: Neal G. Gasser, Division of Chemistry
Patrick Race, Recalls and Compliance Division**

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S):

John Rogers	John Conkling	Chi Kay Cheung
Jesse Barrera	Robert Fletcher	Don McCaulley
John Stringer	Larry Brown	Tom Scaman

CPSC/OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY
1998 DEC - 1 P 12: 24

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Subjects Discussed:

- Field testing of Roman Candles, and Helicopters at Washington Fireworks, Manassas, Virginia
- Review of the Standard for Firecrackers (can't resemble illegal fireworks). AFSL has not been testing for it. Committe to review of board's request to implement the standard in January 1998. This will include a 3-9 seconds fuse burn time as well. Reviewed the technical feasibility, and determined that it would only applied to the lead fuse.
- Standards Committee is recommending to the Board of Directors that it believes that the requirement doesn't create additional risk of injury. The Standards Committee realizes that the requirement do not perfect the product, but that it will improve the produce. The requirements create significant safety benefits, and that testing should begin. John Rogers will present the Committee's finding to the Board of directors for their vote. AFSL will use its Chinese newsletter to inform the Chinese factories, request feedback from factories, and allow them sufficient lead time to implement any changes.



- The standards committee review the issue of pyrotechnic limit requirement for wheeled devices. DOT changed the limit from 240 gms. to 200 gm for consistency for all multiple tube devices. John Conkling said that if the device already has an approved EX#, then it is okay. This change only affects new items. All items must meet DOT requirements, so limit must be 200 grams unless item is grandfathered for the 240 gram limit. The AFSL standard must be amended to reflect the grandfather clause.
- The issue of flaming debris as stated in the standards was discussed. The Standards Committee believes additional testing is needed before a resolution can be reached.
- Many if not all helicopters are not currently meeting the 45 degree trajectory of the AFSL standard. The Standards Committee considered expanding the allowable trajectory and lowering the minimum height ceiling. Under the current standard, enforcing these provisions would eliminate the product from the market. A proposed amendment was made and passed without objection.
 1. Expand the trajectory cone to 60 degrees,
 2. The helicopter must reach a minimum height of 5 meters within the 60 degree cone
 3. The primary effects must function after the device clears a 10 meter minimum ceiling. *(lift and simultaneous whistle that functions concurrently with the lift charge is not considered a primary effect.)*
- The issue of changing the current limit of the number of shots per tube for reloadable tube aerial shells (6 shells) was tabled until a later date. Additional testing was recommended.
- The Standards Committee examined samples of labeling on large firecrackers. The Committee determined that additional guidance was needed from CPSC on enforcement policy for large tube firecrackers. The Committee concluded that red is all right if there is cautionary labelling with the manufacturers name and address. The consensus was that if the cautionary label on the device provides a distinguishing characteristic that differentiates it from an illegal device, it is acceptable. A motion was made to recommend that this label be presented to CPSC, and request that CPSC amend its enforcement policy to allow this label so the type size can be increased.
 1. signal word: WARNING
 2. statement of hazard: EXPLOSIVE
 3. advisory language: "DO NOT HOLD IN HAND, USE OUTDOORS, PLACE ON GROUND, LIGHT FUSE AND GET AWAY"
- The CPSC memo by Neal Gasser pertaining to Bottle Rocket Stick Straightness and Rigidity, was distributed to the Standards Committee for review. Discussion will be at a later date.

- The Committee reviewed and added various provisions in the standards to the QIP checklist that are not presently tested for.

- Future Agenda Items.
 - A. Review test data for repeated failures.
 - B. Identify common, chronic problems for specific devices
 - C. Preliminary test data analysis should be done before the Standards Committee examines and attempts to identify specific problems.