

**MEETING LOG DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES**

**SUBJECT:** Meeting of the ANSI Z21.47 ANSI Z21/CGA Joint Central Furnace Technical Working Group

**PLACE:** International Approval Services, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio

**MEETING DATE:** June 3, 1998

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** Ronald A. Jordan

**ENTRY DATE:** June 5, 1998

**COMMISSION ATTENDEES:**

Ronald A. Jordan, ESEE *RAJ*

**NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:**

See attached member attendee list

**MEETING SUMMARY:**

The ANSI Z21.47 ANSI Z21/CGA Joint Central Furnace Technical Working Group (TWG) was assigned its agenda and workload by the full central furnace subcommittee at its last meeting on September 9, 1997. Staff's primary purpose for attending this TWG meeting was to discuss its concerns on the direction of the disconnected vent work statement the full subcommittee had developed for the Gas Research Institute (GRI). These concerns were expressed in a May 14, 1998 letter to the subcommittee chairman and the IAS standards personnel. Because staff's concerns were not assigned as agenda items by the subcommittee they were not included as agenda items for this meeting, but were included as "New Business" items. Furthermore, although discussed, the TWG chairman indicated that the issues raised by staff could not be acted upon by the TWG, once again because they were not assigned by the subcommittee.

**Item 1:Comments on Proposed Revisions to the Central Furnace Standard.**

Log #98006 of this item was a recommendation to add the following sentence to the "Method of Test" portion of Section 1.15, "Draft Hoods, Flue Connections and Integral Venting Systems" (which sets mechanical integrity requirements that a vent withstand a longitudinal force of 100 pounds and a torque of 25 foot pounds):

"Rotation of the vent pipe with respect to the flue collar is acceptable, if the joint then passes the following leakage test."

The TWG members voted to recommend to the subcommittee that the longitudinal force test be reduced from 100 ponds to 50 pounds. They cited as their rationale their

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belief that 100 pounds was excessive and unrealistic, and difficult to pass.

**Discussion of CPSC staff's concerns about the direction of the disconnected vent work statement being forwarded to the Gas Research Institute**

CPSC staff shared with the group its belief that progress to date on this issue has been unsatisfactory and that CPSC is disappointed with the following developments:

\*the subcommittee/working group have taken over a year to work out the wording for the GRI work statement

\*the focus of the work statement has shifted from assessment & development of shutoff technology, to additional failure analysis

\*the work statement (Phase II) no longer states the ultimate failure mode (i.e. "disconnected vent")

Staff told the group that progress on this issue has not been satisfactory and that any subsequent reporting by staff would reflect this view.

Staff shared with the group that a report of unsatisfactory progress might illicit a task from CPSC management for staff to develop a briefing paper to discuss options on how to accomplish the goal of reducing the risk of death and injury form disconnected furnace vents. Staff shared with the group the typical options available.

Staff reiterated the recommendations it made in a May 14, 1998 comment letter to the subcommittee concerning the GRI work statement. Staff shared with the group the following CPSC plans related to this matter.

1. CPSC will conduct testing of furnaces for disconnects and blocked vents.
2. CPSC will share test plan w/furnace industry.
3. CPSC would like to have a meeting at CPSC headquarters to discuss test plan & related issues August of this year.

cc:

Office of the Secretary  
Colin Church  
ESEE Chronological File

Z21/CGA JOINT CENTRAL FURNACE  
TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

✓ Michael Eberlein (CHAIRMAN)  
Manager Furnace Products  
York International  
Elyria, OH 44035  
440/323-5561 X 279  
FAX 440/284-2422

✓ Paul E. Beach  
Manager, Gas Industry Standards  
White-Rodgers Division  
Emerson Electric Company  
24651 Center Ridge Road Suite 325  
Westlake, OH 44145  
440/835-1300  
FAX 440/835-1304  
e-mail: Pbeach@apk.net

Jim Hickson  
Team Leader  
Lennox Industries Inc.  
P. O. Box 10877  
Carrollton, TX 75011-0877  
214/497-7207  
FAX 214/497-7879  
e-mail: jim.hickson@lennoxind.com

✓ Glenn T. Hooker  
Union Gas Limited  
750 Richmond Street  
P. O. Box 2001  
Chatham, Ontario, Canada  
N7M 5M1  
519 436-4600, ext. 3023  
FAX 519/436-5461  
e-mail: ghooker@uniongas.com

✓ Michael Kirkpatrick  
Senior Product Engineering  
Consolidated Industrial Corp.  
P. O. Box 7800  
3535 Brady Lane  
Lafayette, IN 47903  
765 477-9545  
FAX 765/477-9599

Louis Jacques  
Riello Canada Inc.  
216 Meadowpine Boulevard  
Mississauga, Ontario, Canada  
L5N 6H6  
416/542-0303  
FAX 416/542-1525

Gregory A. Lynch  
Amana Refrigeration, Inc.  
HAC Division  
Wilson Parkway  
Fayetteville, TN 37334  
615/438-2182  
FAX 615/438-2189

✓ Donald L. Shrader  
General Supervisor, Gas Service  
Baltimore Gas and Electric Co.  
1699 Leadenhall Street  
Spring Garden Complex  
Baltimore, MD 21230  
410/291-5130  
FAX 410/291-4870  
e-mail: Donald.L.Shrader@bge.com

✓ Dennis Maiello  
Manager, Heating Equipment  
Rheem Manufacturing Company  
Air Conditioning Division  
P. O. Box 17010  
Fort Smith, AR 72917-7010  
501/648-4972  
FAX 501/648-6131

✓ Hall Virgil  
Principal Staff Engineer  
Residential Heating Products Development  
Carrier Corporation  
P. O. Box 70  
Indianapolis, IN 46206  
317/240-5291  
FAX 317/481-5707  
e-mail: Hall.Virgil@carrier.utc.com

✓ Mike Roberts, mid-Jant  
✓ Steve Wilson  
✓ Gary Thibeault, GAMA  
✓ Bob Stuck, IAS  
✓ John Gorman, IAS  
✓ Dave Foland ?