LOG OF MEETING

DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Underwriters Laboratories Plastics Flammability Ad Hoc Committee.

DATE(S) OF MEETING: June 16, 1998

PLACE: Rm. 714 East-West Towers, Bethesda, MD.

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Hammad Ahmad Malik, ESEE

DATE OF ENTRY: June 17, 1998

COMMISSION ATTENDEES:
Hammad Malik, ESEE
William H. King, ESEE
Andrew Trotta, ESEE
Linda Edwards, ES
Richard Stern, CCA
Ed Krawiec, LSE
Jim Hoebel, ES

NON COMMISSION ATTENDEES:
George Fechtmann, U.L. Melville
Pat Toner, Society of the Plastics Industry (SPI)
Don Talka, U.L. Melville
Ray Dawson, Albermarle Corp.
Al Brozauski, U.L. Santa Clara
Debbie Oates, U.L. Melville
Bob Davidson, U.L. Melville
Rich Nute, Hewlett Packard San Diego
Larry Bruno, U.L. Melville
Wayne Morris, Assoc. Home Appliance Manufacturers
Timothy Kettering, The Geon Co.
Rich Pescatore, Hewlett-Packard/ITI
Joan Sterlng, Intertek Testing
Gordon Gillerman, U.L. Washington, D.C.
Debbie Richardson, Society of the Plastics Industry (SPI)
Sam Cristy, Product Safety Letter
Michael A. Brown, Brown & Freeston, P.C.
Gary S. Berideri, Lasko Metal Products
Lou Mecseri, EIA

Inder Wadehra, IBM
Peter Sparber, National Association of State Fire Marshals

SUMMARY OF MEETING: Mr. George Fechtmann (UL) provided introductory remarks, history of the committee, and background information.

Mr. William H. King described the CPSC staff involvement in the committee and summarized the recommendations that the CPSC staff are making to change UL 746C. These recommendations include better defining what constitutes an attended and unattended appliance, specifying points of flame application for end-product flame tests that take connections, splices, etc. into account, and eliminating the current distinction that is based on insulation thickness on internal components..

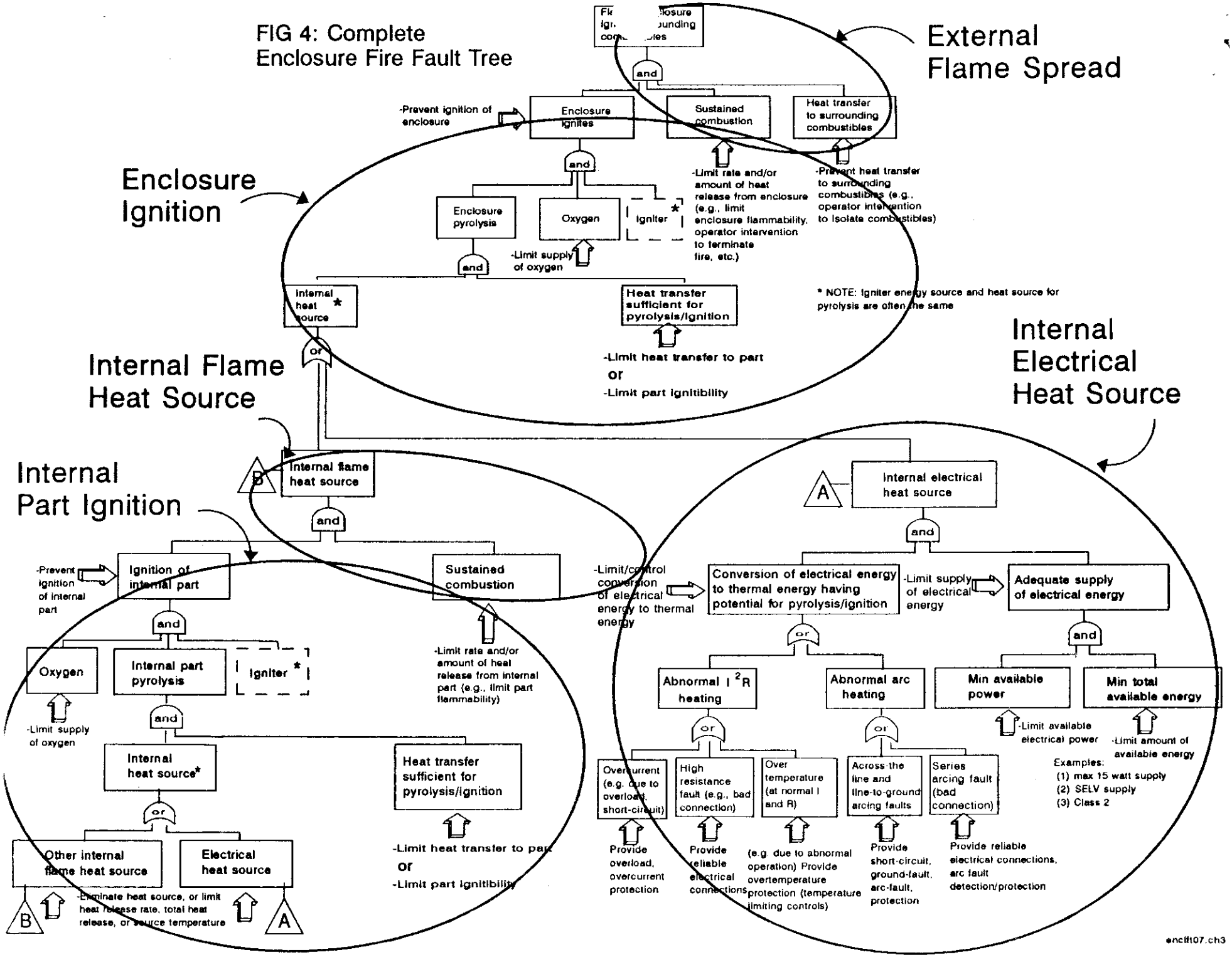
Mr. George Fechtmann indicated that the CPSC staff recommendations will result in UL proposals to accomplish these points. In addition, Mr. Fechtmann briefly described that deformation, softening, and creep requirements will be added to the next revision of UL 746C. It was also mentioned that IEC 335, the international standard that deals with household appliances, has been issued by Underwriters Laboratories as UL 60335 for comment.

Mr. Larry Bruno described what UL is currently developing as proposed changes to UL 746C in order to address the CPSC staff concerns. Information on the glow wire ignition test and softening (ball pressure) test procedure that are being prepared for inclusion in the recommendation were also provided. Mr. Bruno described how consideration is being given to combining figures 5.1 and 6.1 in UL 746C, removing all of the pre-selection criteria from these figures, and placing them all in figure 8.1.

Mr. Bob Davidson briefly described the requirements of IEC 335/UL 60335 and then went on to describe in detail the latest revisions to the Fire Fault Tree (attached) that he and Mr. Rich Nute have been jointly developing

Before closing remarks were given by Mr. George Fechtmann, the committee members discussed possible projects that would be necessary to help the committee achieve its goals. The projects included further study into a model to predict appliance fires by Mr. Bob Davidson and Mr. Rich Nute, an attempt to correlate the glow-wire ignition test with the hot-wire ignition test and the UL 94 flammability ratings, and finally a study to determine energy levels required for ignition of an appliance to occur due to an electrical fault. Mr. Fechtmann then provided closing remarks.

FIG 4: Complete
Enclosure Fire Fault Tree



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