

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared  
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Products Identified  
\_\_\_\_ Excepted by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Firms Involved  
Comments Processed.

### LOG OF MEETING

**SUBJECT:** Smoke Detectors

**DATE OF MEETING:** October 9, 1997

**DATE OF LOG ENTRY:** October 22, 1997

**PERSON SUBMITTING LOG:** James F. Hoebel *James F. Hoebel*

**LOCATION:** Consumer Product Safety Commission, Bethesda, MD

**CPSC ATTENDEE(S):**

- James F. Hoebel, Engineering Sciences
- Julie Ayres, Hazard Identification and Reduction

**NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S):**

- Gene LaValle, Sentrol (representing National Electrical Manufacturers Association)
- Larry Maruskin, US Fire Administration
- Sara Yerkes, National Fire Protection Association
- Mary Nachbar, National Association of State Fire Marshals
- Pat Coughlin, Operation Life Safety
- Wendy Gifford, First Alert
- Wayne Boyd, US Safety
- Steve Wasserman, Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.
- John Walsh, Dicon
- Alex Cohen, consumer

**SUMMARY OF MEETING:**

This was a meeting of a task group organized by NEMA to consider new smoke detector public education information, probably consisting of a three-fold flyer/brochure. It had been recognized that existing materials did not always have up-to-date information or did not provide enough information in such areas as relative performance of different types of detectors and avoiding nuisance alarms. An organizational meeting had been held in Los Angeles in May, 1997. This was the follow up meeting.

Mr. LaValle chaired the meeting. He had collected brochures from NFPA, UL, USFA, First Alert, American Sensors, and NEMA, and analyzed the contents. Based on the information in these brochures, Mr. LaValle prepared a summary table and a draft brochure outline for discussion.



Public education strategies, distribution networks, target audiences, content, and public sectors to be influenced were discussed. Attendees felt it was important that the materials developed be presented in the context of fire safe behavior. Mr. LaValle stated that the scope of the task group was not limited to developing just another brochure, although the primary focus was on an effective new brochure.

Behaviors/actions to be addressed would include maintenance, choosing an appropriate detector, avoiding nuisance alarms, and fire safe behavior. Conceptually, the sections of the brochure would include a) an introduction, b) choosing the appropriate detector features, c) how many, where, mounting, d) avoiding unwanted alarms, and e) inspection, testing, and maintenance. Various task group members will provide draft text to Mr. LaValle by November 7, 1997. Mr. LaValle will compile a draft brochure, provide the draft to all task group members, and then schedule a follow up meeting to settle on final language.

cc:

J. Ayres  
A. Stadnik  
N. Fleming  
L. Smith  
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M. Neily