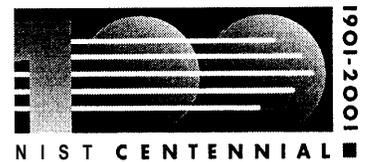


NISTIR 6774

Workshop On Fire Testing Measurement Needs: Proceedings

William Grosshandler
(Editor)



NIST

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce

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Building and Fire Research Laboratory

August 2001



U.S. Department of Commerce
Donald Evans, Secretary

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Dr. Karen H. Brown, Acting Director

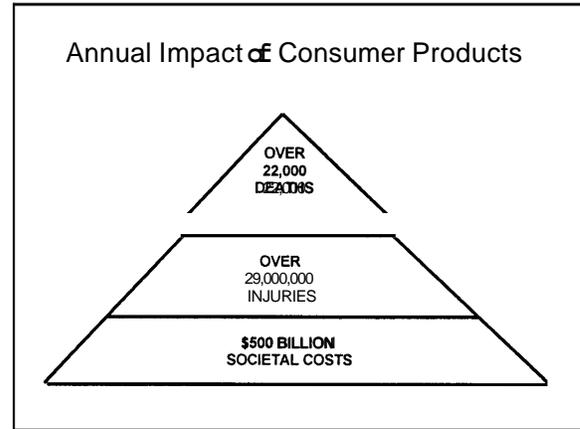
A. Stadnik, CPSC

**United States
Consumer Product Safety Commission**



Presentation at the NIST Workshop on Fire Testing
 Measurement Needs
 June 18, 2001

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CPSC's Mission

- To protect the public against unreasonable risks of injuries and deaths associated with consumer products
- Develop safety standards - mandatory and voluntary
- Minimize conflicting state and local regulations
- Provide comparative safety information
- Promote research and investigation into the causes and prevention of injuries

CPSC History

- Established - 1973 under the Consumer Product Safety Act
- Independent Federal regulatory agency
- 3 Commissioners
- Jurisdictional Authority in 5 Acts
 - Consumer Product Safety Act (CPSA)
 - Federal Hazardous Substances Act (FHSA)
 - Flammable Fabrics Act (FFA)
 - Poison Prevention Packaging Act of 1970 (PPPA)
 - Refrigerator Safety Act (RSA)

Product Jurisdiction

- 15,000 types of products - found in the home, schools, public places.
- Some product types we do NOT regulate:
 - Tobacco products
 - Aircraft 
 - Medical devices
 - Firearms 
 - Food and drugs
 - Pesticides 
 - Motor vehicles 
 - Workplace products
 - Boats 
 - Alcoholic beverages 

CPSC Organization*

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graph TD
    C[COMMISSIONERS  
Ann Green - Chairman  
Mary Shells Galt - Commissioner  
Thomas Skow - Commissioner]
    OS[OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Todd Stevenson - Acting]
    ED[EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Thomas Mary (Acting)  
Thomas Mary - Deputy]
    GC[GENERAL COUNSEL  
Michael Stander]
    C --- OS
    C --- ED
    C --- GC
    OS --- HIR[HAZARD IDENTIFICATION & REDUCTION  
Economics/Engineering  
Epidemiology/Health Sciences  
Laboratory Sciences]
    OS --- COMP[COMPLIANCE  
Recalls  
Recall Monitoring  
Civil Penalties]
    OS --- RO[FIELD OPERATIONS  
Incident Investigations  
Enforcement  
Local Outreach]
    OS --- PA[PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
Information & Education  
Media Relations]
  
```

* This is a simplified functional organization chart which does not include many key support groups within the CPSC including Administration, Human Resources, Information Services, Budget, Planning, Inspector General, Equal Employment, and Congressional Affairs.

Size of CPSC

- FY 2001 budget of \$52.5 million
- 480 staff
 - Headquarters 290 (Bethesda, MD)
 - Field 150
 - Laboratory 40 (Gaithersburg, MD)

A. Stadnik, CPSC

CPSC Fire Test Standards Summary

CPSC Fire Test Standards in the CPSA, FHSA, or FFA.

Generally CPSC Fire Test Standards based on

- real life hazard
- documented risk reduction potential
- economic considerations
- ease of conduct/repeatability

Typically require record keeping and/or certification documentation be available or submitted.

Specific Products Addressed In Existing CPSC Regulations

- Clothing Textiles
- Children's Sleepwear
- Carpets and Rugs
- Mattresses and Mattress Pads
- Vinyl Plastic Films
- Cellulose Insulation
- Matchbooks
- Cigarette Lighters
- Multi-purpose Lighters
- Flammable Contact Adhesives
- Coal and Wood Burning Appliances
- Fire Extinguishers
- Volatile Flammable Materials - Flashpoint
- Extremely Flammable and Flammable Solids
- Self-Pressurized Containers - Flammability and Flashpoint

Current Major CPSC Product Fire Test Standard Development Efforts

Regulatory Activities

- Upholstered Furniture - Petition, Draft Standard Presented for Small Open Flame Test
- Polyurethane Foam in Furniture - Petition Under Evaluation
- General Wearing Apparel - Considering Updating Requirements (e.g., Detergent, Cleaning Method Changes)
- Mattresses - Petition Under Evaluation, Industry Sponsored Work at NIST

Voluntary Standards Activities

- Range Fires - Requests Made to UL and ANSI
- Clothes Dryer Fires - CPSC and Industry Efforts Underway
- Fire Sprinklers - Industry Study Underway

CPSC Fire Test Standards Observations

- Many firms and testing laboratories often do not understand requirements in standards.
- Testing, certification, and recordkeeping requirements often complicated.
- Feedback and communication help when questions or problems arise with test method.

CPSC Fire Test Stds Observations, Cont'd.

- Develop full understanding of requirements
- Develop proficiency in testing samples
 - ASTM training (Clothing and Sleepwear)
 - Other accreditation programs (NIST, AATCC)
- Plan testing with clients
 - Do the right one (clothing vs. sleepwear)
 - Submit adequate specimens so tests complete
 - Know what the test represents (lot, shipment, etc.)
 - Have and keep meaningful records (consistent descriptions)
 - Provide clear link/connection between test and production
- Call CPSC, Office of Compliance if questions
 - Products always changing being invented and may not have been envisioned when regulation issued

Handouts

Overview Of Select CPSC Fire Test Standards

Regulatory Summaries

- Requirements for Cigarette Lighters, 16 C.F.R. Part 1210
- Requirements for Multi-Purpose Lighters, 16 C.F.R. Part 1212
- Requirements for Clothing Textiles, 16 C.F.R. Part 1610
- Children's Sleepwear Regulations, 16 C.F.R. Part 1618 & 1616

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