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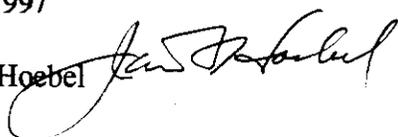
LOG OF MEETING

SUBJECT: Candle Safety

DATE OF MEETING: August 27, 1997

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: September 11, 1997

PERSON SUBMITTING LOG: James F. Hoebel



LOCATION: ASTM, West Conshohocken, PA

CPSC ATTENDEE: James F. Hoebel, Engineering Sciences

NON-CPSC ATTENDEES: Approximately 40 individuals representing candle manufacturers, suppliers, candle holder manufacturers, testing laboratories, candle trade association, retailers, and consultants. ASTM will provide this information with their minutes.

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

At the request of the U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff, ASTM organized this meeting to consider whether to form a subcommittee under ASTM Committee F-15 on consumer products to address candle fire hazards.

After self introductions, review of the objectives of the meeting, and a presentation by Terri Luthy of ASTM on the ASTM function and process, Mr. Hoebel presented data available to the CPSC on candle fires. The analysis showed a relatively constant number of fire deaths annually associated with candles of about 90. Ignition factors, emergency room treated injuries, hazard scenarios, ages of injured persons, types of candles involved, types of candle holders involved, estimated candle burn times prior to the incidents, and other observations were presented. A report summarizing these factors was provided.

Thomas Kreilick, Candle Corporation of America and chairman of the National Candle Association's (NCA) standards evaluation steering committee, provided an overview of the candle industry. There has been a dramatic growth in this industry, and 1997 sales are estimated to be \$2 billion. He introduced James Becker as head of the NCA technical committee. Mr. Kreilick was followed by Dr. Edward Heiden, NCA contractor, who is preparing an analysis of available fire data. While the analysis is not complete, Dr. Heiden presented several data tables based largely on CPSC data sources. Dr. Heiden compared the incidence of candle incidents to lighters and matches. He noted that he has observed some discrepancies between his analysis and the information provided by CPSC. Dr. Heiden calculated the number of fires per million products in use for several products, ranging from



ranges (at 579) through portable heaters, central heating, clothes dryers, outdoor grills, ovens, water heaters, central air conditioning, washing machines, to candles (at 0.2), noting that this represented relative risk. Mr. Kreilick then resumed and presented a proposal from the NCA to form a subcommittee that would initially focus on data evaluation and then would develop a priority list of candle hazards for the subcommittee to address. This process should take approximately 30-60 days. The subcommittee would then form task groups to address the identified priority hazards.

Considerable discussion then ensued concerning relative risk, the effects on industry, the need for a standard, the ASTM process and balance issues, the motivation for importers to comply with a voluntary standard, and the non-uniformity of the laboratory testing that is now being conducted by many manufacturers.

The NCA proposal was brought to a vote, and was passed unanimously (CPSC abstaining). The title of the subcommittee was designated "Candle Products." The scope was described as "the promotion of knowledge and the development of safety standards for candles and candle accessories, based upon supporting cost/benefit data." Mr. Kreilick was voted to be the subcommittee chair, and Mr. Becker the vice-chair. Mr. Kreilick appointed two work groups: Terminology (George Pappas, chair, and Eileen Hedrick, Elizabeth Johnson, David Beaman, and Bob Nelson) and Data Evaluation (J. C. Edmond, chair, and Mary Beth Adams, Bob Higgins, John Root, Edward Heiden, a CPSC representative, and James Becker). The ASTM staff coordinator will be Kathy Morgan.

The next meeting was scheduled for September 26 in Baltimore, to coincide with the NCA Fall meeting. The goal of the next meeting will be to review progress of the task groups.