

**LOG OF MEETING  
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES**

SUBJECT: ANSI C18 Subcommittees on Portable Cells and Batteries

DATE OF MEETING: February 22-23, 2011

PLACE OF MEETING: Royal Sonesta Hotel, New Orleans, LA

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Doug Lee, ESEE

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: April 18, 2011

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Doug Lee, ESEE

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Andrei Moldoveanu, NEMA - Secretary  
Michael Babiak, Energizer  
Marcus Boolish, Energizer  
Denis Carpenter, Rayovac  
John Hadley, Rayovac  
Andrew Markow, BAE  
Charles Monahan, Panasonic  
Ramesh Shah, Portable Power Consultants, LLC  
Steven Wicelinski, Duracell  
Keel Kelly, Duracell -Chair  
Iizuku Kuniharu, BAJ  
Jody Leber, SGS  
Rich Byczec, Intertek  
Doug Golde, Fisher-Price  
Laurie Florence, UL  
Akio Furukawa, Sanyo  
Koji Sekai, Sony

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

The ANSI C18 1-5 subcommittees and C18-0 main committee met and discussed items related to the revision of ANSI C18 standards, American National Standard(s) for Portable Rechargeable Cells and Batteries. Agenda items of significant CPSC interest are summarized below.

Lithium ion and polymer cells used in toys

Lithium polymer (LiPo) technology is often considered as lithium-ion. Ms. Florence presented a proposal for the inclusion of LiPo cells within ANSI C18.2M, Part 2 based on a previous meeting determination that these types of batteries should be included. The standard presently has requirements for lithium-ion cells but would need revising to add LiPo cells. Mr. Furukawa stated that the LiPo cells presently being manufactured are basically the lithium-ion cells

manufactured using a flexible pouch as the external case in place of the rigid can.

Mr. Lee reported on the ASTM F963, Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety, effort to add requirements to address hazardous battery incidents with toys. These requirements have been completed and are ready for balloting. The proposed ASTM F963 requirements developed by the ASTM task group refer to the ANSI C18 standards as well as IEC and UL equivalent standards for certification requirements of lithium-ion and LiPo cells and batteries. The new requirements also added additional requirements for batteries used in sealed enclosures and additional safety labeling for toys using lithium coin cells.

#### Lithium Coin Cell Safety

Mr. Lee added lithium coin cell safety to the agenda. Previously, the ANSI C18 committee members revised ANSI C18.3M, Part 2 adding additional verbiage to the safety information section in order to heighten awareness of the dangers of battery ingestion. It was discussed that NEMA members and ANSI C18 have been active in various ways to reduce the hazard including a letter to manufacturers of electronic devices. Mr. Lee discussed that CPSC staff are seeking methods to further reduce battery cell ingestion hazards and that reducing hazards would likely involve addressing the hazard from multiple angles and might include battery compartment requirements, packaging, warning labels, education, standards requirements, and/or designs of the battery that could remove the hazard.

ANSI C18 members recommended that CPSC staff address this topic with the NEMA 3DB section and that related IEC committees should also be informed. ANSI C18 members would be willing to consider future proposals to update standards based on NEMA 3DB and CPSC staff suggestions. As larger coin cells are gaining increasing attention, members recommended that the Safety Subcommittee continue to cover this item as a future agenda item for further discussion.