

## LOG OF MEETING

**DATE:** March 1, 2011

**LOCATION:** CPSC, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda MD 20814

**SUBJECT:** Table Saw Safety

**ATTENDEES:** David Butler and Rob Calhoun, Whirlwind Tool Company

**OBSERVERS:** Kenneth Stevanus, Rudy Fiers and Blair Thompson, Occupational Safety and Health Administration; Stephen Gass and David Fanning, SawStop; Mark Hickok, Techtronic Industries – NA; Mark Knedeisen, K&L Gates; James Wilson, Webster, Chamberlain & Bean; Susan Young, Power Tool Institute; Ted Gogoll, Stanley Black & Decker; Dan Lanier, Miles & Stockbridge; Ed Krenik, Bracewell & Guiliani; Daniel Rhodes, Makita U.S.A., Inc; Ernie Palazzolo and Richard S. Sullivan, Sullivan & Sullivan, LLP; Peter Domeny, Robert Bosch Tool Corporation; Pamela Gilbert, Cuneo, Gilbert & LaDuca, LLP; and Sally Greenberg, National Consumers League.

**CPSC ATTENDEES:** Robert Adler, Commissioner; Jason Levine, Legal Counsel to Commissioner Adler; Jana Fong-Swamidoss, Legal Counsel to Commissioner Adler; Matt Howsare, Chief of Staff to the Chairman; Mark Fellin, Press Secretary to Commissioner Northup; Joe Martyak, Legal Counsel to Commissioner Nord; Bill Zamula and Gregory Rodgers, Division of Economic Analysis; Philip Chao and Hyun Kim, Office of the General Counsel; Mark Kumagai, Kevin Lee, and Arthur Lee, Division of Engineering Sciences; Jason Goldsmith, Division of Health Sciences; and Bob Ochsman and Tim Smith, Division of Human Factors.

**MEETING SUMMARY:** Mr. Butler presented a slide show about Whirlwind Tool Company's prototypes for the Whirlwind Health and Safety System for table saws. He explained that it is a multi-tiered system that ideally could be used on both newly produced saws and retrofitted to existing table saws. Mr. Butler noted that the system makes use of a flesh sensing technology to stop the saw blade from

**injuring the user. The system is also designed to collect and remove saw dust as it is created. Mr. Butler stated that he had patents pending on the technology. Commissioner Adler asked Mr. Butler about the cost of the system to end users, if it should be put into production. Mr. Butler stated that he could not be certain – but he hoped that when produced in large quantities the system’s cost would be below \$100. Commissioner Adler also asked questions about the development of the technology and whether Mr. Butler had been in negotiations with table saw manufacturers regarding his technology. Mr. Butler said that he had been contacted by some manufacturers but that he preferred to wait until his patents had been approved. Commissioner Adler also asked if Mr. Butler thought his product would infringe upon any existing patents. Mr. Butler said he was certain it would not. CPSC staffers inquired about the technological differences between his product and other safety devices on the market. Others in the audience asked about whether Mr. Butler thought the technology was going to be easily replicable on a large scale. He said he believed it would. Commissioner Adler thanked Mr. Butler for his time and his presentation.**

**LOG AUTHOR: Jason Levine**

**LOG CREATION DATE: March 4, 2011**