

LOG OF MEETING

DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

CPSC 6 (b)(1) Cleared  
A. J. [Signature]

**SUBJECT:** Test Procedures for Wooden Toys

**DATE OF MEETING:** January 25, 1994 **PLACE:** East West Towers,  
Bethesda, MD

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** John Preston, ESME *JP*

**DATE OF ENTRY:** February 4, 1994

**COMMISSION ATTENDEES:** John Preston, ESME  
Celestine Trainor, EPHF  
Frank Krivda, CERM

**NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:** Jürgen Raab, IKEA of Sweden  
George Puchta, IKEA U.S., Inc.  
Karl Rajchel, IKEA U.S., Inc.

**SUMMARY OF MEETING:**

The meeting was requested by the representatives from IKEA for the purpose of seeking CPSC staff advice on ways to ensure that wooden toys would not break during use and present a choking hazard to young children.

Several small wooden vehicle toys were displayed that had been fabricated in Europe and, when tested in accordance with the requirements in the CPSC small parts regulation, were found to comply. However, after being retested after shipment to the U.S., some of the toys were found to be in violation of the requirements. The IKEA representatives asked if CPSC staff had any suggestions on what tests could be performed that would ensure that a toy is safe for its entire life.

In an ensuing discussion, several suggestions were offered.

- Toys could be tested to more stringent requirements than are in the CPSC regulations
- Better QC procedures may be warranted
- Glue deterioration should be investigated

CPSC staff informed the IKEA representatives that certain shapes of small objects, such as the human-like driver in one of the vehicular toys, may be a choking hazard if they break off despite their compliance with the small parts requirements. IKEA representatives were informed of the CPSC staff request to the ASTM Toy Safety Subcommittee for requirements to address choking on small figures and other toys with rounded ends in the voluntary standard ASTM F963. It was noted that the Subcommittee had rejected the request.

The IKEA representatives asked if they could call on CPSC staff in the future to discuss toy safety issues. Staff responded affirmatively and stated that compliance issues should be directed to Frank Krivda and questions regarding test procedures to John Preston.

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