

## MEETING LOG

28/1/95  
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COMMUNITY PROMOTION

**Subject :** Third Meeting of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors Task Force Four - Standards Evaluation

**Meeting Date :** July 11, 1995 (10:00am - 3:30 pm)

**Date of Log:** August 9, 1995

**Location :** California Air Resources Board, 2020 L Street, Sacramento, CA 95812

**CPSC Attendee:** Sandra E. Inkster, Pharmacologist, EHHE

### Attendees:

Delegate	Representing	Telephone no.	Fax no.
Irwin Billick (for Ted Williams)	Gas Research Institute	312-399-8304	312-399-8326
Lou Chavez (for Paul Patty)	Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.	708-272-8800x42752	708-272-3846
Morrie Farbman	Illinois Fire Chiefs Assoc		
Craig Farnsworth (secretary)	AGA Research (Secretary)		
Tom Gionta	BRK/First Alert		
John Girman	US EPA, 6203J	202-233-9317	202-233-9555
Sandra Inkster (for Tim Johnson)	US CPSC, EH	301-504-0994x1198	301-504-0025
Dr. Eric Kindwall	Medical College of Wisconsin		
Alan Korn	National Safe Kids Campaign	202-884-4993	301-650-8038
Richard Kwor	Nighthawk Systems		
Tom Phillips	California Air Resources Board	916-322-7145	912-322-4357
Alex Spataru (chairman)	The Adept Group, Inc.	310-208-8074	310-208-0129
<b>Guests</b>			
Mike Apte	Lawrence Berkeley National Lab	510-468-4669	510-451-4669
Dr. Bertram Carnow	Carnow, Conibear & Assoc. Ltd	312-782-4486	312-782-5145
Wendy Gifford	BRK / First Alert	708-851-7330x327	708-851-7452
Mark Goldstein	Quantum Group	619-457-3048	619-457-3229
Bill Johnson	CCI Controls	213-560-6060	213-56-1136
Alina Kulikowski-Tan	The Adept Group, Inc.	310-208-8074	310-208-0129
Ken Perkins	US Alarm Co.		
Mike Schell	Telaire Systems, Inc		
Greg Traynor	Lawrence Berkeley National Lab	510-486-5729	510-486-6658
Kazumi Unno	Figaro USA, Inc	708-256-3546	708-256-3884
<b>Absent Delegates</b>			
Jim Clark	National Fuel Gas Distr. Corp		
Ray Kay	Orland Park Fire Protection District		
Ed Koyama	American Sensors		
Dr. Edward Krenzelok	Pittsburgh Poison Control Center		

### Meeting Summary

A number of task forces have been formed to reach consensus positions on various aspects of CO detector function. These task forces are comprised of representatives from CO detector manufacturers, gas industry, fire services, government agencies, other interested parties (standards groups, physicians, etc) and the general public.

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Task Force 4 is charged with evaluating standards for CO detectors. Sandra Inkster (EH) acted as a substitute delegate for Tim Johnson (ES) who represented CPSC at the two previous meetings of Task Force 4 (2/95 and 5/95).

- The recommendation of Task Force-5 (Action Levels) "*to provide consistency between different manufacturers in the meaning of warning and alarm signals, all manufacturers should target (i) warning signals to be activated at an average of 5% COHb with a tolerance of  $\pm 2.5\%$  COHb, and (ii) alarm signals to be activated at an average of 7.5% COHb with a tolerance of 2.5% COHb*" was presented. Attendees attempted to define equivalent ppm values for these levels; after considerable discussion interested parties were advised to submit their written ppm recommendations, plus justification, to the meeting secretary by August 15.
  - A summary of comments to UL on proposed revisions to UL 2034, and in some cases UL replies, voluntarily supplied by a number of interested parties, was distributed. The majority of these comments supported raising the minimum CO alarm activation point to at least 30 ppm. BRK/First Alert declined to disclose details of their interaction with UL
  - Delegates unanimously agreed that there should be a mandatory QC requirement for CO detectors equivalent to ISO 9000 (11/11)
  - The following draft proposal defining properties of the optional warning signal was prepared: *The warning signal may be either a (a) visual signal - blinking light (yellow or orange) or digital readout (readable in the dark)<sup>2</sup> or (b) a non-threatening<sup>1</sup> non-verbal audio signal (<3100 Hz) or voice message<sup>2,3</sup>. Manufacturers must include a manned 800 customer support number on the device.*
- <sup>1</sup> mutable,  
<sup>2</sup> auto reset in case condition goes away  
<sup>3</sup> clearly distinguishable from smoke detector, fire and combustible gas alarms
- Ill-defined areas of the revised UL 2034 standard (concerning activation of warning signal during cyclical testing and reset, minimum duration of silence during reset) were raised. A majority voted that detectors incorporating a warning signal should not have an alarm reset feature (8/11 for; 3/11 abstain)
  - The readability of instructions on installed detectors and accessibility of reset buttons was raised. A majority voted that markings that were unreadable during detector activation should not be required (6/11 for, 2 against, 3 abstain)
  - Full meeting minutes will be available once the approved minutes are released by the CO Detector Steering Committee.
  - Tentative next meeting of Task Force 4 scheduled for 9/7/95 at CPSC, Bethesda, MD