

LOG OF MEETING

DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Open Flame Ignition Test Development for Mattresses

DATE OF MEETING: May 31, 2000

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: June 8, 2000

SOURCE OF LOG ENTRY: Margaret Neily, ESME *MM*

LOCATION: National Institute for Standards and Technology, Building 225, Room B-221, Gaithersburg, MD

CPSC ATTENDEES: See attached attendees list.

NON-CPSC ATTENDEES: See attached attendees list.

SUMMARY OF MEETING: The National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) recently completed phase 1 of a project to develop a method of measuring the resistance of mattresses to ignited bedding. Tom Ohlemiller, NIST, presented a proposal for phase 2 of this work for discussion. The objectives are:

- (1) to assess the ability of small mattress assemblies to predict the burning behavior of twin size and larger beds with bedclothes, and
- (2) to provide a semi-quantitative basis for estimating the reduction in bed fire hazards as a function of the reduction in peak heat release rate from a mattress/foundation with bedclothes.

The group discussed factors related to the potential impact of test criteria on fire losses intimate with ignition, in the room of origin, and outside the room of origin. Ability to ignition nearby combustibles is another factor.

Further development of the NIST test concept will be needed in order for typical laboratories to be able to conduct needed evaluations. Few laboratories have adequate facilities (room or furniture calorimeters) for the full scale fire tests used in these studies.

NIST expects to clear their final report on phase 1 of this development shortly. The Sleep Products Safety Council will forward it with a cover letter to CPSC staff in mid June. There will be further discussion of the phase 2 proposal and scaling of the test for a possible mandatory standard.

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