

LOG OF MEETING

DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

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SUBJECT: Zoltek PYRON Fiber Applications

DATE OF MEETING: October 25, 2001

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: November 1, 2001 (updated November 29, 2001)

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SOURCE OF LOG ENTRY: Margaret Neily, ESME

LOCATION: CPSC headquarters, Room 715

CPSC ATTENDEES: See attached list of attendees.

NON-CPSC ATTENDEES: See attached list of attendees.

SUMMARY OF MEETING: Paul Walsh, President, Technical Fibers Division of Zoltek, gave an informative presentation on Zoltek and their oxidized PAN (polyacrylonitrile) fiber, PYRON®. PYRON® is black in color, is a good insulator, can be processed on conventional textile equipment, improves flammability of blends with other fibers, and is less expensive than Nomex. This fiber has been manufactured for more than 25 years; however, the applications have been in aircraft brakes, jet engines, welding blankets, and fire blockers for aircraft seating. Zoltek believes this fiber can have applications in textile products like mattresses and upholstered furniture, primarily as an insulator under the ticking or upholstery fabric to improve fire performance. Poor abrasion resistance makes PYRON® inappropriate for use as an outer fabric.

A mattress with a thin layer of PYRON®/polyester batting in the quilted topper was tested according to TB 129. The test was stopped at 18.5 minutes when 60 kW heat release was reached. For comparison purposes, a comparable mattress with no PYRON reached the 60 kW heat release limit in 1 minute 45 seconds. Currently priced in the \$4/lb range, this approach would add approximately 5-10% to the cost to produce a mattress.

MFR/PRVLER NOTIFIED

No comments made

Comments attached

Exclusions/Revisions

Firm has not requested further notice

11-30-01
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