

CPSC MEETING LOG
UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE

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Meeting Between: CPSC staff and members of ASTM E5.15 Subcommittee Task Groups

Date of Meeting: April 20, 1999

Site of Meeting: ASTM Headquarters, West Conshohocken, PA

Meeting Topic: Upholstered Furniture Flammability

Log Entry By: Dale R. Ray, EC (301) 504-0962 x. 1323 *DR*

Participants: ASTM: Kurt Reimann, BASF Corp. (Task Group Chmn.)
Tom Fritz, Armstrong (Subcommittee Chmn.)
Paul Dillon, President, Sleep Products Safety Council, ASTM staff, and 27 others representing textile, furniture, chemical, & tobacco industries.

CPSC: Dale Ray, EC
Project Mgr., Upholstered Furniture

Summary:

This meeting of the ASTM E.05-15 Subcommittee included discussion of the activities of the Upholstered Furniture Small Open Flame Ignition Work Group, and activities of the Mattress Round Robin Work Group. Dr. Reimann, chairman of the small open flame work group, moderated the discussion on upholstered furniture; Mr. Dillon, chairman of the mattress round robin work group, led that discussion.

Dr. Reimann presented data from flammability tests conducted with CPSC's test apparatus by BASF (sponsored principally by the American Textile Manufacturers Association). In these tests, various fabrics were tested over different filling materials and under different test conditions, but generally in accordance with the method in the CPSC staff's draft small open flame standard. Mr. Ray presented an update of CPSC activities on upholstered furniture flammability, including a summary of the staff's work on flammability testing (with responses to several of Dr. Reimann's statements) and on flame retardant (FR) chemical issues. Mr. Ray addressed a number of questions from the meeting participants about various aspects of the CPSC standards development process, including the schedule for completion of the staff's technical work; Mr. Ray stated that some portions of the laboratory work and toxicity review were complete, but that the ongoing National Academy of Sciences study on FR chemicals had just begun, and would not be completed until early 2000.