

**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
Log of Meeting**

EXCEPTED BY: PETITION  
RULEMAKING ADMIN. PRCDG

WITH PORTIONS REMOVED: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT:** WCMA Technical Committee Meeting

**DATE OF MEETING:** May 13, 2009

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** Rana Balci-Sinha

**DATE OF LOG ENTRY:** July 27, 2009

**LOCATION:** Atlanta, GA

**CPSC ATTENDEES:** Rana Balci-Sinha ESHF  
Caroleene Paul, ESME  
Renaë Rauchschalbe, Compliance

**NON-CPSC ATTENDEES:**

Jeff Sendlak	Bureau Veritas
Tom Marusak	Comfortex
Ren Judkins	Flexo Solutions
Stephen Drew	Health Canada
Shannon Whittle	Health Canada (via phone)
Joe Jankoski	Hunter Douglas
Patrick Foley	Levolor Kirsch Window Fashions
Robert S. LeBlanc	Lewis Hyman, Inc.
Tom Merker	Springs Window Fashions
Lorne A. Stewart	Wholespace Industries
Eileen Stewart	Wholespace Industries
Michael Tierney	WCSC
Tim Bennett	WCSC
Ralph Vasami	WCSC

**SUMMARY OF MEETING:**

- 1) Reviewed CPSC's and Health Canada's comments from the Provisional Standard Canvass. CPSC stated their concern about the 8 inch ring spacing in paragraph 4.5.3.1, accompanied by a demonstration using a shade design involved in a 2007 incident. CPSC staff restated their recommendation for inner cords on roman shades, which is either inaccessibility or cord release device. Health Canada restated their comments on the ballot. Their comments included similar concerns with CPSC in addition to measuring the loop perimeter while incorporating the shade material as part of a loop, measuring the loops while the pull force is being applied, and testing cords even if they are further than 2 inches away from sides or bottom of the shade. The Roman shade task group will review comments.

- 2) The group agreed that any new test procedures should be validated through laboratory testing.
- 3) Inclusion of inner cord language in additional hang tags will be addressed in the new draft.
- 4) The term "accessible inner cords" was removed from the cord definitions because the terms "inner cords" and "accessible cords" covered the combination, as shown in the draft.
- 5) A proposal submitted to increase the cord release device force from 5 to 8 pounds (not a ballot comment) was discussed and put aside due to CPSC opposition based on the clinical study that measured occlusion forces.
- 6) The committee agreed that the number of hang tags might be able to be reduced, by combining verbiage and illustrations. An outside expert may be consulted to make recommendations. The durability and attachment integrity will also be reviewed.
- 7) Sections 6.1 and 6.4 would be revisited based on developments by the task groups. Section 6.3 was deleted because there were no known active products.



WCMA Technical Committee Meeting  
May 13, 2009  
12:00 p.m. ET  
Georgia World Congress Center, Room 209  
Atlanta, GA  
Minutes

Attendees

Jeff Sendlak	Bureau Veritas
Tom Marusak	Comfortex
Caroleene Paul	CPSC
Renaë Rauchschtvalbe	CPSC
Rana Balci-Sinha	CPSC
Ren Judkins	Flexo Solutions
Stephen Drew	Health Canada
Shannon Whittle	Health Canada (via phone)
Joe Jankoski	Hunter Douglas
Patrick Foley	Levolor Kirsch Window Fashions
Robert S. LeBlanc	Lewis Hyman, Inc.
Tom Merker	Springs Window Fashions
Lorne A. Stewart	Wholespace Industries
Eileen Stewart	Wholespace Industries
Michael Tierney	WCSC
Tim Bennett	WCSC
Ralph Vasami	WCSC

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Tom Merker at 12:05 p.m. EDT.

II. Review of antitrust guidelines

Ralph Vasami reviewed the antitrust guidelines governing the meeting.

III. Approval of the April 16, 2009 Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the April 16, 2008 meeting were approved.

IV. Review of comments from Provisional Standard Canvass

Mike Tierney explained that all comments submitted during the provisional standard ballot would be considered during this revision. Tom added that the provisional standard was processed to expedite the implementation of hang tags and design requirements for roman shades, and further development would proceed with the re-opening of the standard.

CPSC stated their concern about the 8 inch ring spacing in paragraph 4.5.3.1, accompanied by a demonstration using a shade design involved in a 2007 incident. The CPSC discussed cord inaccessibility or requiring a cord release device. It was clarified that a task group to address roman shades would continue their work and addresses the issues raised by CPSC.

Ballot comments from Health Canada were reviewed. Shannon Whittle and Steve Drew summarized their concerns as outlined in their 12/22/2008 letter. The comments included:

- similar to CPSC, concerns with paragraph 4.5.3.1
- including fabric as part of a loop
- applying Section 6.6 to all inner cords
- loops should be measured while the weight is being applied
- remove the apparent exemption in 6.6.1 caused when inner cords do not extend to two inches from the bottom
- Preference that cords be inaccessible

The Roman shade task group will review comments.

The group agreed that any new test procedures should be validated through laboratory testing.

Hunter Douglas' comment to include inner cord language in additional hang tags will be addressed in the new draft.

Finally, the cord definitions ballot comment from Mike Fischer led to further discussion and deletion of the term "accessible inner cords" in the current standard draft – because the terms "inner cords" and "accessible cords" covered the combination, as shown in the draft.

V. Top Down Bottom Up task group report

The task group will meet as part of the Roman shade Task group.

VI. Roll Ups task group report

The task group will meet as part of the Roman shade Task group.

VII. New proposals for A100.1

A proposal submitted from Whole Space to increase the cord release device force from 5 to 8 pounds (not a ballot comment) was discussed and put aside due to CPSC opposition based on occlusion force studies which they described and will be provided to the Committee.

VIII. Review of Draft H starting with 5.2.2

The committee agreed that the number of hang tags might be able to be reduced, by combining verbiage and illustrations. An outside expert may be consulted to make recommendations. The durability and attachment integrity will also be reviewed.

Sections 6.1 and 6.4 would be revisited based on developments by the task groups. 6.3 was deleted because there were no known active products.

IX. Old Business

- NFRC update

There was no old business or NFRC report.

X. New Business

There was no new business.

XI. Next Meeting

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for 7/09/2009 by web conference.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m.