

MINUTES
Joint Industries Fabric Standards and Guidelines Committee Meeting
Embassy Suites - Kingston Plantation, Myrtle Beach, S.C.
May 10, 2011

1. Bill Perdue called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Meeting arrangements were explained, sign up sheets were distributed, and self introductions were made. Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

The November 2011 meeting will be a web based meeting concentrating on reviewing standards. This will cut expenses and offer more participation. The spring meetings could alternate between a location in North Carolina and an offsite location like Myrtle Beach.

2. Bill Perdue reported that AHFA is continuing to monitor actions by Arleen Bloom in California to rewrite Cal. TB117 and ban FR chemicals. It is the hope of AHFA to get a national flammability standard from CPSC which would pre-empt any legislation by individual states. Changes to the safe chemical act have been stalled for now.

3. Mary Martha McNamara, of the law firm McNamara & L'Heureux, gave the committee an update on Washington developments affecting upholstered furniture.

- * Regarding lead in paint and surface coatings, CPSC has designated three test methods as acceptable for use by third party labs:

- 1) CPSC-CH-E1003
- 2) CPSC-CH-E1003-09.1
- 3) ASTM F2853-10 (XRF)

One of these three methods must be used.

- * Definition of Children's Product:

- Designed for use by child 12 years or younger.

- What is the intent of the manufacturer.

- How is the product marketed.

- Do people perceive the product to be used by children.

- Is there a distinctive decorative theme for children.

- * Regarding lead content in childrens products, the limit of 300 ppm is scheduled to drop to 100 ppm on August 14, 2011.

- * The CPSC Public Database went live on March 11, 2011. While there is much controversy concerning the use of this database, it was recommended that manufacturers register their company so they can monitor any complaints on their products, The web site of this database is "saferproducts.gov".

- * CPSC proposed it's "15 Month" rule that outlined what constitutes a reasonable testing program for purposes of Certificates of Conformity. It also proposed a component part policy. These are both overdue, but caught up in controversy over costs.

- * Upholstered Furniture Flammability - NIST has completed work on a standard reference cigarette and they are now available for purchase. The prices has been reduced to \$239 for 2 cartons with a 2 carton minimum. Work on a standard reference foam is almost complete. A briefing package is expected to go to the commission in 2012.
- * CPSC commissioner Moore's term has expired and commissioner Northrup's term will expire in October 2011. This will likely add delays to any pending rule making at CPSC.

4. Shane Lych reported that ASTM is still working on precision and bias statements for the reinstatement of 4033 and 4034.
5. Ann Laidlaw from X-Rite gave a presentation on the future of lighting. Some of the points she covered were:
 - * 100 w incandescent bulbs must be improved.
 - * LED -not ready for light boxes
 - * When comparing light sources, it must be judged by lumens, not watts.
 - * NIST is working on proposed replacement for LED.
 - * We cannot set a standard light as technology is changing too fast.
 - * LED are not being used in spectrophotometers because they are not white enough.
6. Review of Standards and Guidelines:
 - 1) ABRASION - There was much discussion about abrasion ratings and how the ratings listed in the guidelines correspond to mill labels of "light, medium, and heavy duty". Perry Lowe agreed to submit a proposal explaining how the ratings correlate with the number of double rubs in the oscillatory cylinder method.
 - 2) BOW & SKEW - Bob Ayers reported that some fabric printers use standards that are much looser than our standards. The suggestion was made that this should be noted in the guideline. It should be noted that section 2.4.1 already mentions fabrics exceeding the minimum requirements become an matter negotiated between buyer and seller.
 - 3) CATAGORIZATION OF FABRICS - It was suggested to add "chenilles" to category II (3.2.2). It was also suggested to add "circular knits" to 3.3.1 and 3.3.2.
 - 4) GUIDELINE FOR CLEANABILITY - It was brought to the committee's attention that wording changes that were previously approved had not been added to the standards document on the web site. Perry Lowe will research these for the next meeting. Bill Reichel will check with Doug Bowles, IICRC, for possible products available at retail for use on "S" solvent based cleanable fabrics.

7. New Business - Bill Perdue challenged everyone to submit and new name for the standards committee, along with a mission statement. These can be sent to Bill Perdue (bperdue@ahfa.us), Perry Lowe (pelowe@culp.com) or Bill Reichel (breichel@flexsteel.com).
8. Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Perry Lowe, Bill Reichel - Co Chairs