

MEETING LOG

PRODUCT: All-Terrain Vehicles and Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles

SUBJECT: Consumer Reports tour

LOCATION: National Product Testing and Evaluation Center, CPSC Dynamic Vehicle Testing Facility in Ijamsville, Maryland

DATE: 10/26/2018

ENTRY DATE: 10/31/2018

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Perry Sharpless

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Perry Sharpless

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: James Dickerson, Don Huber, Doris Sullivan, and Beth Donnelly Caban, of Consumer Reports. Philip Lighty and Scott Schloegel, of the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America

MEETING SUMMARY:

- Meeting began at approximately 9:00 a.m. in conference room 103.
- Introductions were made all around, then Mr. Sharpless noted that the ground rules were that this a public meeting between CPSC and Consumer Reports, and that any questions from other attendees would be allowed on a time-available basis.
- The meeting then moved on to a discussion of the CPSC methodology for testing of ATVs, and the methodology for testing of ROVs.
- ATV discussion:
 - Focus on ATVs is result of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act.
 - Staff continue to work with stakeholders to revise the standard.
 - Latest standard update includes new conspicuity requirements.
 - Static laboratory-based testing: footwell, labelling, parking brake tests, etc.
 - Dynamic testing: sound, maximum speed, service brake performance.
 - Staff undertake recurrent training in on-road and off-road conditions, to maintain operating competency, and to better inform the voluntary standards development process.

- Consumer Reports staff inquired about the number of miles driven per year, future CPSC work to improve ATV safety, and what changes CPSC would like to see to the standard.
 - Staff noted that the scope of the meeting was limited to compliance testing of ATVs and ROVs, and declined to say how many miles were driven each year; declined to discuss future CPSC work; and declined to say whether CPSC had any proposed changes to the standard, simply noting that CPSC continues to work with the standards developing organization to revise the standard.
- ROVs Discussion
 - Staff noted that they are not a regulated product, therefore subject to section 15 of the Consumer Product Safety Act only.
 - Staff have training and equipment necessary to test to the voluntary standards.
 - Staff undertake recurrent training to maintain operating competency, and to better inform the voluntary standards development process.
 - Consumer Reports staff inquired about future CPSC work to improve ROV safety, and what changes CPSC would like to see to the ROV standard.
 - Staff noted that there are several voluntary standards covering ROVs and utility vehicles; noted that the scope of the meeting was limited to compliance testing of ATVs and ROVs and declined to say whether CPSC had any proposed changes to the standard; and noted that CPSC continues to work with the standards developing organization to revise the various standards.
- Staff noted that all publicly-available reports were available on www.cpsc.gov.
 - Technical reports available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Research--Statistics/Technical-Reports#atv-and-rovs>.
 - Injury reports available at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Research--Statistics/Injury-Statistics#atv-and-rovs>.
- Meeting moved to the Outdoor Powersports laboratory, where staff provided an overview of the vehicle testing hardware, including specifically:
 - Tilt table
 - Crane for balancing angle testing
 - Electronic wheel scales
 - Mechanical probes
 - Data acquisition system, including the combination global positioning system/inertial measurement unit and base station for enhanced accuracy

- ROV steering controller
 - ROV outriggers
- The meeting concluded at NPTEC at approximately 11:30 a.m., and adjourned to the dynamic testing facility in Ijamsville, Maryland.
- Staff showed the attendees the runway that is used for dynamic testing to the ATV standard, and noted that there is a separate facility for ROV and UTV testing, which have different dynamic test requirements.
- Staff noted the adjacent off-road areas available to staff to help further the agency's understanding of vehicle use in a real-world environment, and noted that staff frequently travel to off-site training locations for more rigorous supervised training.
- The meeting concluded in Ijamsville at approximately 1:30 p.m.