U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
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Rear Admiral William S. Stokes
Director
National Toxicology Program Interagency Center for the
Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
P.O. Box 12233
Research Triangle Park, N.C. 27709

Dear Rear Admiral Stokes:

We are pleased to inform you, as required by the ICCVAM Authorization Act, that the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (Commission) voted unanimously on March 2, 2011 to approve the recommendations of ICCVAM regarding ocular hazard testing including: (1) the routine use of topical anesthetics, systemic analgesics, and humane endpoints to avoid or minimize pain and distress in ocular safety testing; (2) the current validation status of five *in vitro* test methods proposed for identifying eye injury hazard potential of chemicals and products; and (3) the discontinuation of the use of the low volume eye test for ocular safety testing. Please note that the Commission did not vote on the fourth ICCVAM report, the current validation status of a proposed *in vitro* testing strategy for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ocular hazard classification and labeling of antimicrobial cleaning products, because the report addresses a strategy for products that are not within CPSC's jurisdiction.

Labeling a consumer product for the hazards associated with that product is required by the Federal Hazardous Substances Act (FHSA). To determine the appropriate cautionary labeling for acute eye irritation or corrosion, *in vivo* animal testing may be necessary. However, if animal testing is needed, the Commission supports reducing the number of animals used and decreasing the pain or suffering associated with animal testing models. In 1984, the Commission adopted a policy to reduce the number of animals tested and to minimize the pain and suffering associated with testing (49 FR 22522). This policy states that neither the FHSA nor the Commission's regulations require any firm to perform animal tests. Furthermore, the utilization of laboratory animals is recommended in a tiered and sequential approach that limits animal testing if other data exist to support a hazard determination. In addition, eye irritancy testing is not performed if a product is known to be a primary skin irritant.

The briefing package sent to the Commission can be found on the Commission website (www.cpsc.gov) in the Library (FOIA) section at http://www.cpsc.gov/library/foia/foia11/brief/iccvam1.pdf .

Sincerely,

Todd Stevenson