

Meeting: IEC (International Electro-technical Commission) TC89(Fire hazard testing)

Date: 23 to 27 October 2006

Venue: Svenska Elektriska Kommissionen (SEK), Kista, Sweden

Attendance: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, The United Kingdom, The United States (26 attendees from 11 member bodies)

Participant from NMRI
Koichi Yoshida, Director of Centre for International Cooperation



A view of the meeting



The delegations of Japan
Mr. Inui, Mr. Fukaya and Mr. Yoshida

Major contributions to the meeting

Yoshida delegated Japan as the leader, and contributed to the meeting as follows.

1. Guidelines on Fire safety assessment for electro-technical products

Need for clarification of responsibility on safety of electro-technical products and demand on enhancing safety designs lead IEC to development of guidelines on fire safety assessment, namely;

IEC 60695-1-10: Guidance for assessing fire hazard of electrotechnical products – General guidelines

IEC 60695-1-11: Guidance for assessing the fire hazard of electrotechnical products - Fire Hazard assessment

IEC60695-1-12: Guidance for assessing the fire hazard of electrotechnical products - Fire safety engineering.

In these guidelines, “Fire Safety Engineering: FSE” developed as ISO standard by ISO/TC92 is used. Yoshida is contributing the development of these standards. These guidelines are also applicable to electrical installation of ships.

2. Ignitability test under heat flux from flame

IEC 60695-11-11 “Determination of the ignition characteristic heat flux from a flame source” has started by a proposal of Japan, and is now CD stage. Yoshida is the project leader of this item. The test method has been developed jointly by National Institute of Technology and Evaluation (NITE) and NMRI. Comments to this CD from members were resolved. TC89 agreed to proceed to the 3rd CD ballot. TC89 also agreed that this standard is to be published as a technical Specification (TS) in 2008 as the first step.

3. Standards for heat release rate measurement: IEC60695-8-3

Development of IEC 60695-8-3 Heat release rate test for liquid insulation materials and other liquids has been started in 2004. Yoshida is the project leader. The draft test method is being developed based on ISO 5660-1: Cone Calorimeter. This test method is also applicable for measurement of heat release of liquid fuel, such as marine diesel oil. International trial tests were conducted in UK and Japan (Research Institute of Marine Engineering and Japan). This trials lead to the development of liquid specimen holder and test protocol. Yoshida is a project leader of this item. Comments to this CD from members were resolved. TC89 agreed to proceed to the CDV ballot.

4. Liaison between IEC/TC89 and USO/TC92 and relation to IMO

IEC/TC89 is keeping closely liaison with ISO/TC92 (Fire safety). Yoshida is working as the liaison officer between IEC/TC89 and ISO/TC92, because he is chairing ISO/TC92/SC1 (Fire initiation and growth). Yoshida reported to IEC/TC89 of the recent activities of ISO/TC92. Yoshida also reported that IMO was now working on comprehensive review of Fire Test Procedures Code (FTP Code), to which IEC/TC89 should have interest and contribution.

Future meetings

Next working group meetings will be held on 30 and 31 May 2007 in London UK.

Next TC89 meeting with the working group meeting will be held from 16 to 19 October 2007 in Le Mans France.