

GREAT LAKES MARKETING RESEARCH



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Lighter Testing Q & A

How long does the process take to test a lighter with a child panel?

GLM requires about 6 – 8 weeks to complete a panel of 100 children. The CPSC recently said it takes about six weeks to process the report.

What are the typical steps taken by the CPSC after the report has been received?

The CPSC does not send a letter to the firm stating that it has received the report unless the firm requests an email confirmation. The recommended strategy is to send the report using a service that has a tracking number.

Once the report is received, the CPSC processes all of the manufacturer, importer, and lighter information into their database and takes photos of the submitted lighters.

Does the CPSC provide a “certificate” stating the report has been accepted?

The CPSC does not provide a certificate when a report has been accepted. The CPSC will send a letter of acknowledgment and acceptance stating that the reporting requirements have been met. The letter is sent to the importer/manufacturer via mail and fax. If requested, the CPSC can also email a copy of the letter.

Do you have any guidelines for minimum force levels?

The CPSC does not offer any guidelines. No minimum requirements exist due to the variety of lighters being manufactured and the different forms of child resistant features.

What are the basic guidelines for one report to cover several models?

When a firm provides a report to cover several models, it is best to make it clear in the report which models are being cross-qualified with each tested model. The regulation only allows a new lighter model to be cross-qualified to a previously tested model. It is not acceptable to cross-qualify to a model that was also cross-qualified and not specifically tested.

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