

**AFSL CONSUMER FIREWORKS  
SEMINAR  
Branson, MO  
September 11, 2019**



# AGENDA FOR MEETING

- I. Introduction – Michael Ingram, President
  - II. Update on CPSC Proposed Rulemaking  
– John Rogers, AFSL, Chuck Rogers, BV
  - III. Consumer Fireworks Mid-Year Program Summary  
– John D. Rogers, Exec. Director
  - IV. Election of Directors
- BREAK
- V. Fireworks Related Injuries Report  
– Jerry Wingard, Project Manager
  - VI. New Standards/Program Modifications – John Rogers
  - VII. Questions/Answers



# I. Introduction

- Michael Ingram, President



## II. Update on CPSC Proposed Rulemaking

- John D. Rogers  
Chuck Rogers

# ACTIONS PROPOSED BY CPSC

## 1. Metal Composition in Break Charges

- CPSC proposal (new 16 CFR § 1500.17(a)(3)(i), declares as a “banned hazardous substance”:

*“Fireworks devices that contain a burst charge containing metallic powder less than 100 mesh in particle size . . . If the burst charge is produced by a charge of more than 2 grains (~130 mg) of pyrotechnic composition.”*

## Provisions Retained in the FR

- Adopts AFSL/APA ban on fine mesh metals in aerial break charges (with one percent discretionary allowance for contamination);
  - Adopts AFSL/APA total composition limits and break charge-to-overall composition ratio limits for aerial devices, specifically: Limits sky and bottle rockets to 20 g of comp;
  - Limits mine and shell devices to 60 g of comp per tube; 20 g of lift charge (for each tube); 200 g/500 g total comp; break charge may not exceed 25% of total comp, exclusive of lift charge;

## Provisions Retained in the FR

- Reloadables limited to 60 g of comp per shell; 20 g of lift charge per shell; 400 g total comp per kit; and break charge limit of 25% of total comp, exclusive of lift charge ;
- Lift charges limited to black powder
- Adopts AFSL/APA limit on firecrackers to 50 mg of comp (except for firecrackers used as a component of a rocket);

## Provisions Retained in the FR

- Adopts AFSL/APA requirement that bases remain “securely attached during handling, storage and normal operation;”
- Adopts AFSL/APA prohibition on “burnouts” and “blowouts;” and
- Defines various terms (banned “aerial bomb,” burst charge,” etc.).



# CPSC Proposed Rulemaking - Timeline

- NPR published February 2, 2017
- Initial Comments Due April 18, 2017
- NFA requested and received extension for 3 months
- Final Comments Due July 17, 2017
- AFSL/APA submitted joint comments July 17, 2017
- CPSC NPR public meeting on March 7, 2018
- “Staff Package” (including FR and explanation, response to public comments, and other supporting docs) released on September 27, 2018
- Commission decisional meeting scheduled for September 24, 2019

# Summary of AFSL Testing

Chuck Rogers

Americas Director – Supply Chain Solutions and Technical  
Consulting

Bureau Veritas Consumer Product Services

## Summary of AFSL XRF Testing Data

	Number of Samples	Compliance at 1% Limit	Compliance at 2% Limit
2016	1107	72.7%	80.3%
2017	616	85.6%	86.9%
Company Test	79	89.9%	93.7%

## XRF Screening Procedure

- Samples taken during normal AFSL testing operations
- XRF either brought to site or samples taken to a nearby location
- XRF Screening will not change turn-around time
- XRF Screening will not increase testing fees

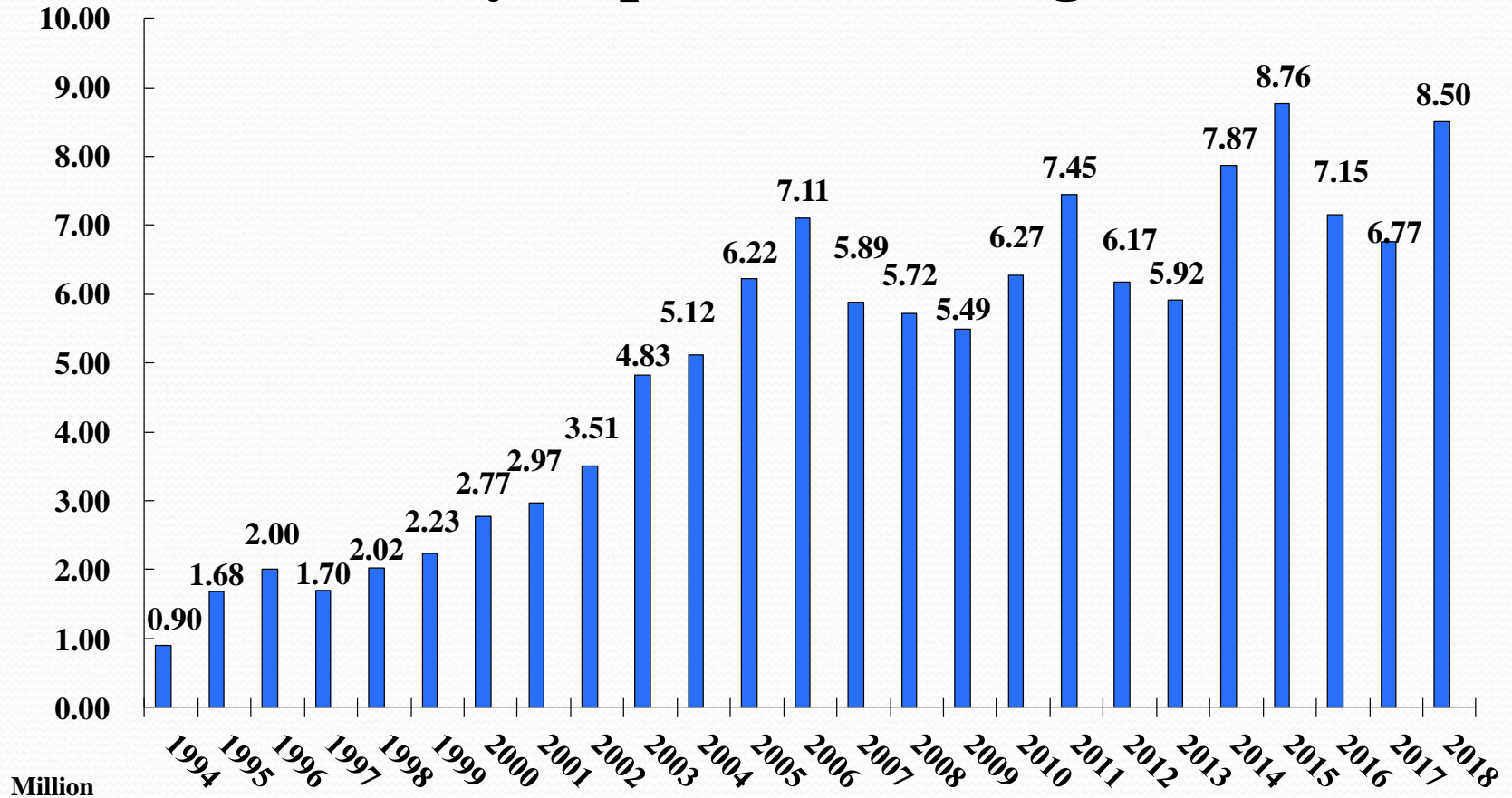


### III. Consumer Fireworks Mid-year Program Summary

- John D. Rogers, Executive Director

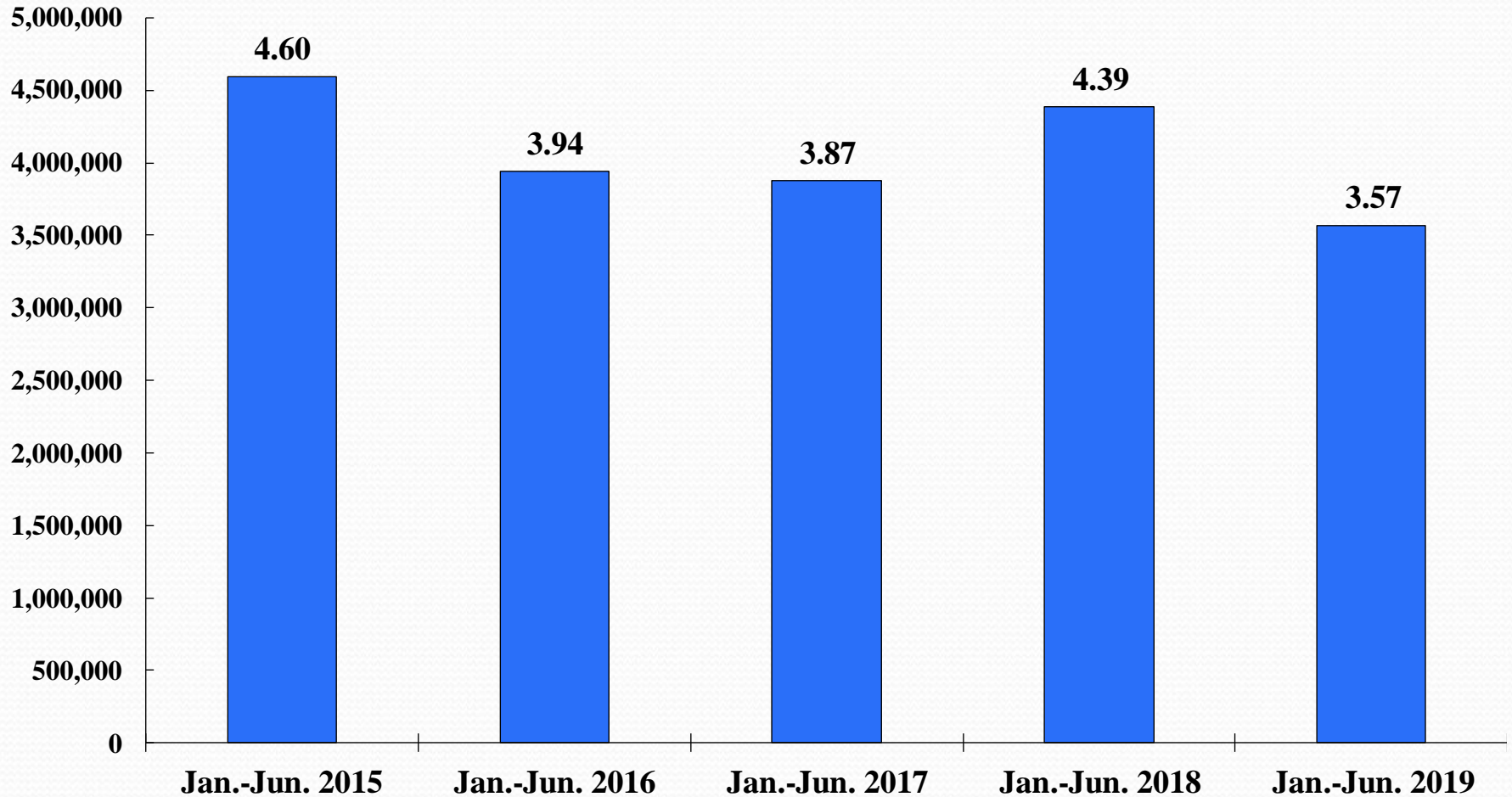
# CASES TESTED BY YEAR 1994-2018

## Quality Improvement Program



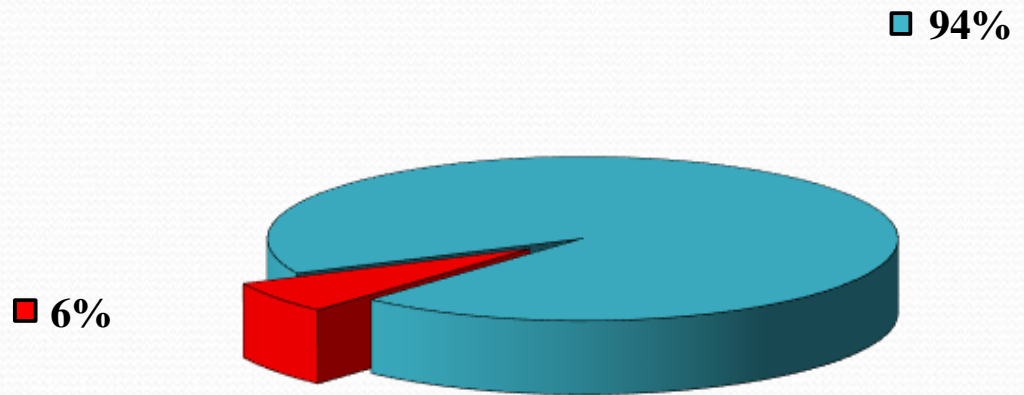
# CASES TESTED BY YEAR 2015-2019

## Jan. – Jun.



# COMPLIANCE RATE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM HALF YEAR 2019

■ Compliance  
■ Non-Compliance



**Complying Cases: 3.34 million (include 104,579 component cases).**

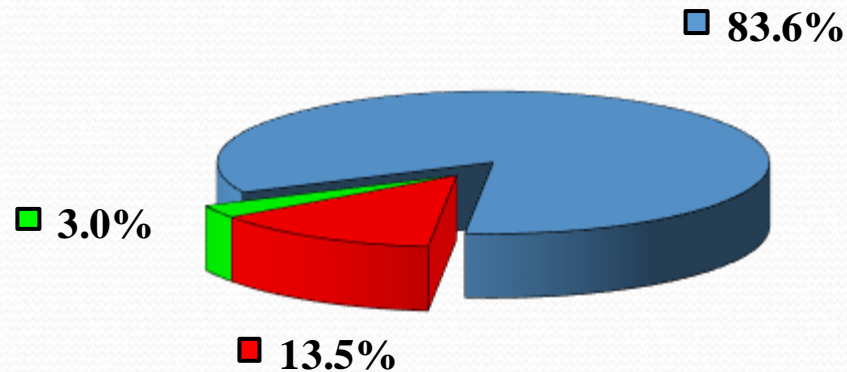
**Non-Complying Cases: 227,900 (include 744 component cases).**

**Total Cases: 3.57 million cases.**



# REGULAR, ASSORTMENT, AND COMPONENT HALF YEAR 2019

■ Regular   ■ Assortment   ■ Component



**Cases tested for Regular Program: 2.98 million cases.**

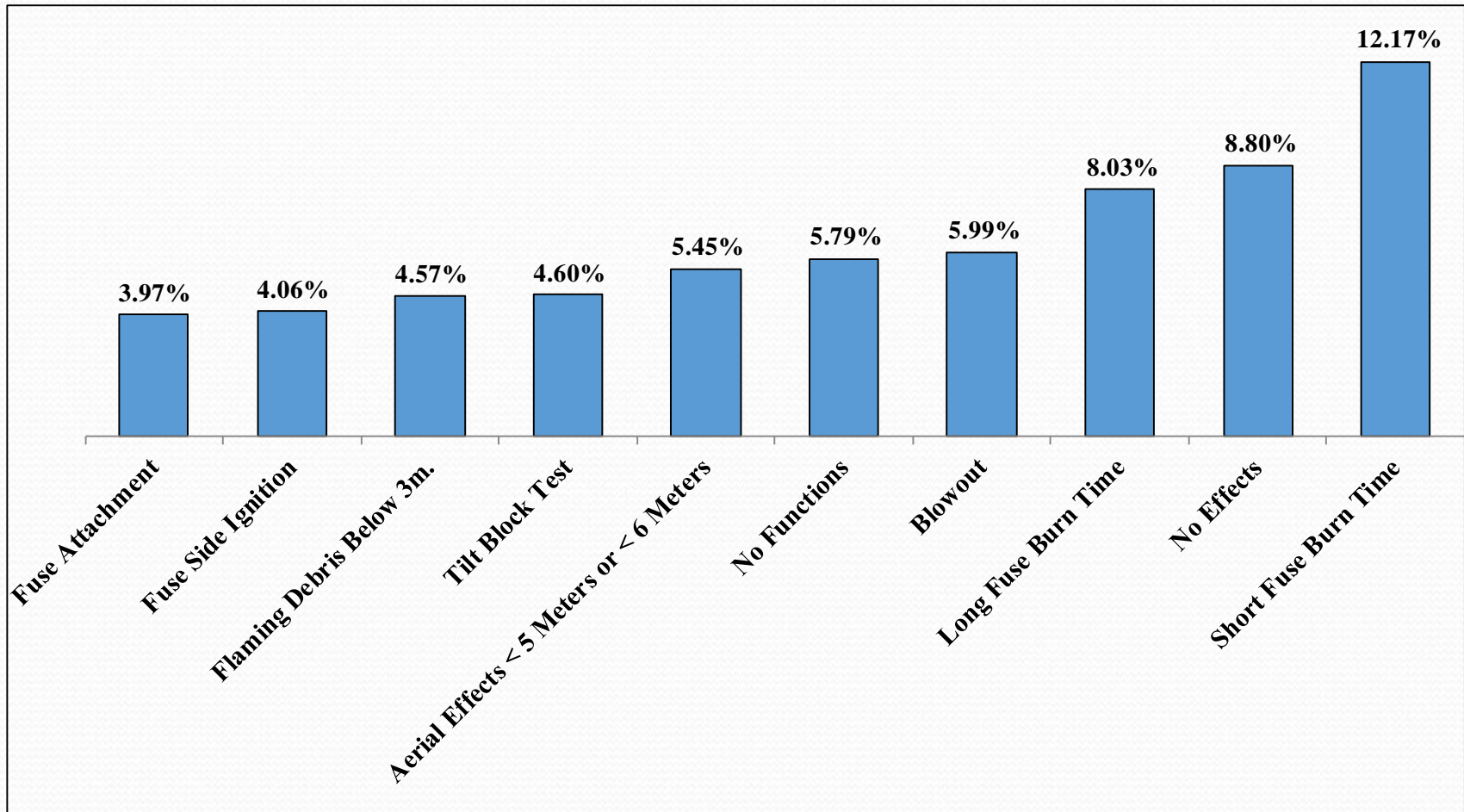
**Cases tested for Assortment Program: 480,567 cases.**

**Cases tested for Component Program: 105,323 cases.**

**Total Cases: 3,569,457**

# TOP 10 VIOLATIONS HALF YEAR 2019

## Percentage of Total Violations





## IV. Election of Directors

## **Election Candidates**

### **a. Consumer Importer/Distributor/Retailer Category:**

**Michael Collar – Winco Fireworks International**

**John Walker – Spirit of '76**

### **b. Consumer Shipper Category:**

**Thomas Chan – United Pyrotechnics (USA), Inc.**

**Rebecca Song – Panda Fireworks Co., Ltd.**

### **c. Display Importer Category:**

**Phil Grucci – Fireworks by Grucci**



**BREAK**



## V. Fireworks Related Injuries Report

- Jerry Wingard, Project Manager

# 2019 Fireworks Fatalities

**During the 2019 Fourth of July fireworks season, we have received reports of eighteen fatalities reportedly related to fireworks. This is the highest number of fatalities since AFSL has been investigating these events. Following is a summary of the eighteen fatalities that occurred.**

## SUMMARY

**Of the eighteen fatalities:**

- **Thirteen involved consumer fireworks:**
- **Three involved three inch display shells:**
- **Two involved homemade/illegal fireworks:**
- **Of the consumer fireworks eleven reloadable tube aerial shells and one was a roman candle.**



**Of these fatalities the products included:**

- Six were reloadable tube aerial shells size unknown**
- Two were five inch in length reloadable tube aerial shells**
- Two were four inch in length reloadable tube aerial shells**
- One was a ball shaped reloadable tube aerial shells**
- One was a roman candle**
- One was multiple consumer fireworks (Show)**

**Of the thirteen fatalities the injuries included:**

- **Seven were blunt force trauma to the chest**
- **Three were blunt force trauma to the head**
- **One was blunt force trauma to the head and chest**
- **One was burns to her lungs**
- **One was other (Head Injury)**

## Remaining Investigation

**18. There is one accident remaining to be investigated in the next several weeks. The media is reporting that the incident involved a mortar type devices, that was slow to function and when the subject returned to the device, it fired striking him in the head.**



## VI. New Standards/Program Modifications

- John D. Rogers, Executive Director

# Standard for Reloadable Tube Aerial Shell Devices

- In order to maintain consistency with APA 87-1A, Section 2-1.11.4 of the AFSL Standard for Reloadable Tube Aerial Shell Devices be eliminated from the Standard, thereby removing the requirement that canister shells must not exceed 4 inches in length.

Effective Date: February 25, 2019.



## VII. Questions & Answers

[www.afsl.org](http://www.afsl.org)

THANK YOU!

