



OSAC RESEARCH NEEDS ASSESSMENT FORM

Title of research need:

Keyword(s):

Submitting subcommittee(s): **Date Approved:**

(If SAC review identifies additional subcommittees, add them to the box above.)

Background Information:

1. Description of research need:

Information reported to the public by CPSC is generally not specific as to the mechanism of failure. Many fire investigators assume that just because a product is recalled it is the likely ignition source if found in the area of origin in a particular fire. By providing detail on the failure mechanisms and circumstances required for a fire to occur, quality and validity of cause determination would be enhanced. By improving the quality and validity of cause determinations the fire investigation community could provide enhanced feedback to CPSC and manufacturers. The research need is for development of a practical method that would result in manufacturers reporting recalls and the CPSC to make available data that is developed in determining a product recall that clearly identifies the failure mechanism.

2. Key bibliographic references relating to this research need:

3a. In what ways would the research results improve current laboratory capabilities?

3b. In what ways would the research results improve understanding of the scientific basis for the subcommittee(s)?

3c. In what ways would the research results improve services to the criminal justice system?

This research will help the fire investigation community to better form and test hypotheses relevant to fire cause.

4. Status assessment (I, II, III, or IV):

	Major gap in current knowledge	Minor gap in current knowledge
No or limited current research is being conducted	I	III
Existing current research is being conducted	II	IV

This research need has been identified by one or more subcommittees of OSAC and is being provided as an informational resource to the community.

Approvals:

Subcommittee	Approval date: <input type="text"/>
<i>(Approval is by majority vote of subcommittee. Once approved, forward to SAC.)</i>	

SAC		
1. Does the SAC agree with the research need?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the SAC agree with the status assessment?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
If no, what is the status assessment of the SAC: <input type="text"/>		
Approval date:	<input type="text"/>	
<i>(Approval is by majority vote of SAC. Once approved, forward to NIST for posting.)</i>		