

# AFSL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Denver, CO  
October 8, 2015



# AGENDA

- I. Board of Directors' Report – Michael Collar, President
- II. Election of Directors – John Rogers, Exec. Director
- III. Financial Report – Tad Trout, Treasurer
- IV. General Counsel's Report – Quin Dodd
- V. Introduction of New Test Lab – Chuck Rogers, BV
- VI. Report on Consumer Fireworks Testing Program
  - A. Summary of Test Results
  - B. New Standards Approved by the Board
  - C. Summary of Importers' Audits – Jerry Wingard
- VII. Report on Display Fireworks Testing Program  
– John Rogers, Exec. Director
- VIII. Election Results
- IX. Closing Remarks – Michael Collar, President



# I. Report from the Board of Director

- Michael Collar, President

*Thank You for a Record Year*

**AFSL**

*Over*

**7.8 Million**

**CASES TESTED**



## II. Election of Directors

- John Rogers, Executive Director



### III. Financial Report

- Tad Trout, Treasurer



## IV. General Counsel's Report

- Quin Dodd



## V. Introduction of New Testing Lab., Bureau Veritas

- Chuck Rogers, Americas Director



# AFSL General Membership Meeting October 2015



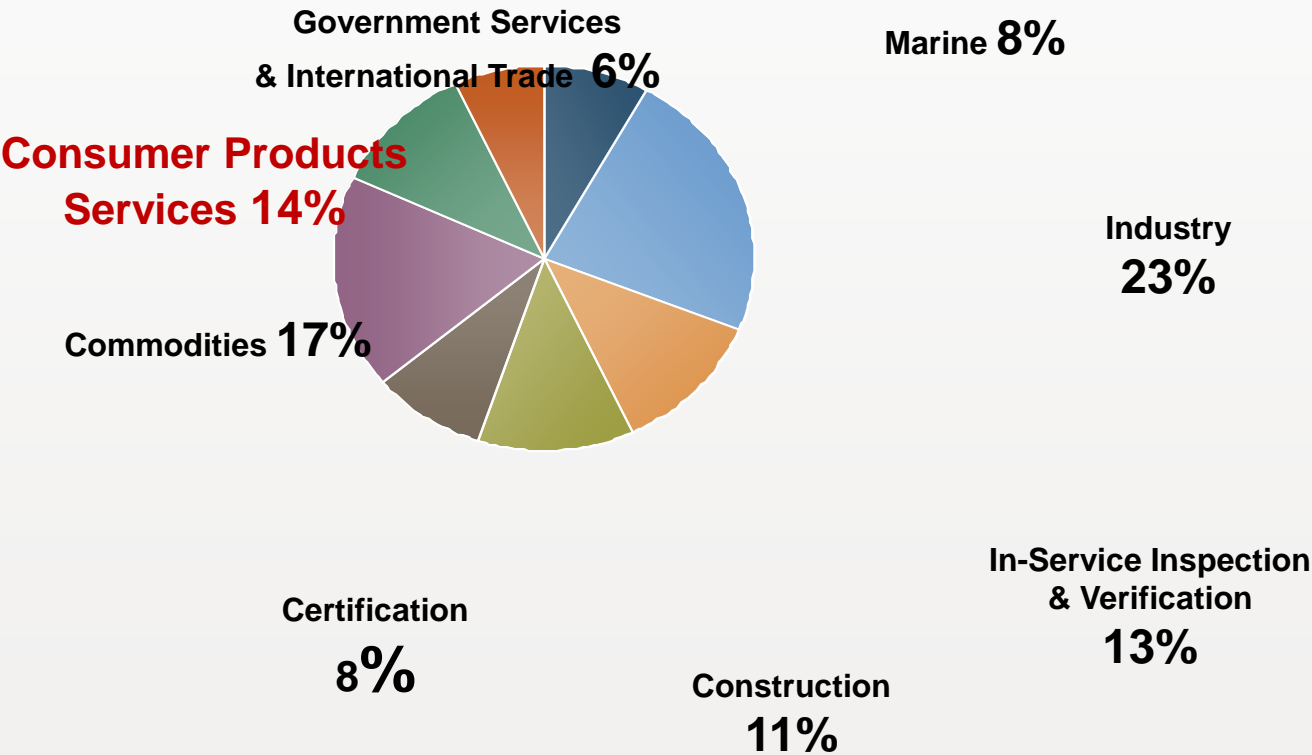
**BUREAU  
VERITAS**

*Move Forward with Confidence*

# Bureau Veritas at a Glance



## Eight Global Businesses with Global Leadership Positions Revenue breakdown (2014)



# Bureau Veritas at a Glance



**Founded in 1828**

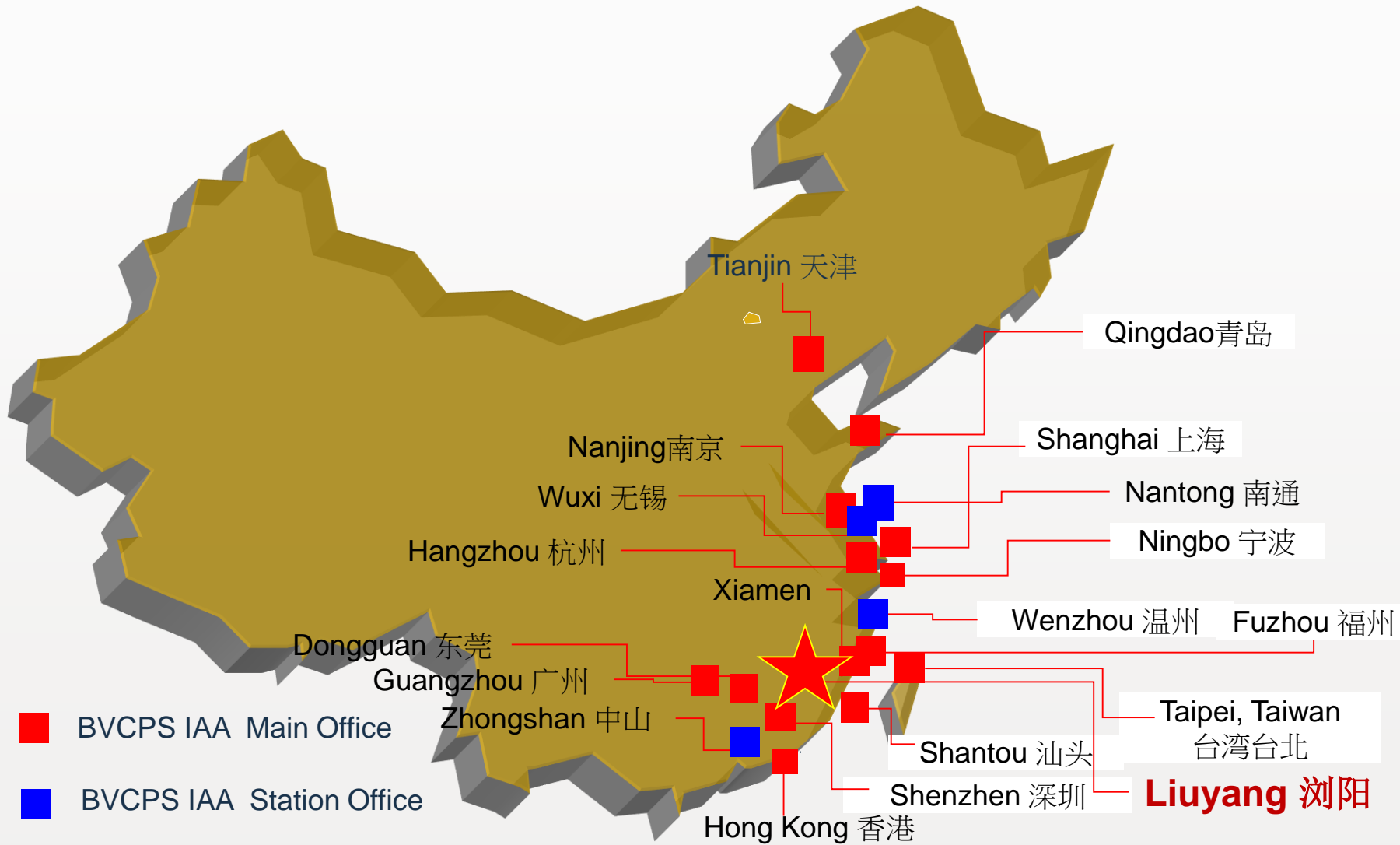
**Global leader in conformity assessment and certification services in QHSE**

**2014 Revenue: €4.17bn revenue**

**1,440 Laboratories and Offices in 140 Countries**

**66,500 skilled employees servicing 400,000 customers across wide range of end markets**

# BVCPS – Greater China Network



# BV CPS Liuyang Office



**12F Baijian Building  
Liuyang Avenue  
Liuyang City  
Hunan Province, China**

# BV CPS Liuyang Office



# BV CPS Liuyang Office



# BV CPS Liuyang Office





# Shipper\Factory Outreach



- ▶ Shippers and factories are encouraged to meet with the BVCPS team to discuss issues and concerns on a regular basis by having open meeting times at the Liuyang Office
- ▶ AFSL will be updated on feedback including any action items
- ▶ Initial meeting times are 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM every Tuesday and Thursday

# Personnel



BUREAU  
VERITAS



# Management and Support Staff

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- ▶ Operations Manager – Mike Sui
- ▶ Technical Supervisors – Cass Ruan, Timmy Hu
- ▶ Technical Trainer – Leo Liu
- ▶ Coordinators (Clerks) – 7

- ▶ 20 Testing Teams
  - Senior Certified Technicians – 5
  - Certified Technicians – 14
  - Technicians – 3
  - Assistant Technicians – 18
    - Former SGS – 3
    - BV Transfers – 8
    - Local Hires - 7

# Central Test Sites



# Central Site Milestones

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- ▶ Ongoing discussions with CIQ and government officials to confirm sites
- ▶ Presentation of final plan to the board at the February Meeting
- ▶ Transition June 1, 2015

# Chuck Rogers

*Americas Director, Technical Consulting & Supply Chain Solutions*

*AFSL Program Manager*

**Inspections, Audits and Assessments**

**Bureau Veritas Consumer Product Services**

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Bentonville, AR

72712

Office: 479-845-7453

[Email:Chuck.Rogers@us.bureauveritas.com](mailto:Chuck.Rogers@us.bureauveritas.com)



***Move Forward with Confidence***





## VI. Report on Consumer Fireworks Testing Program

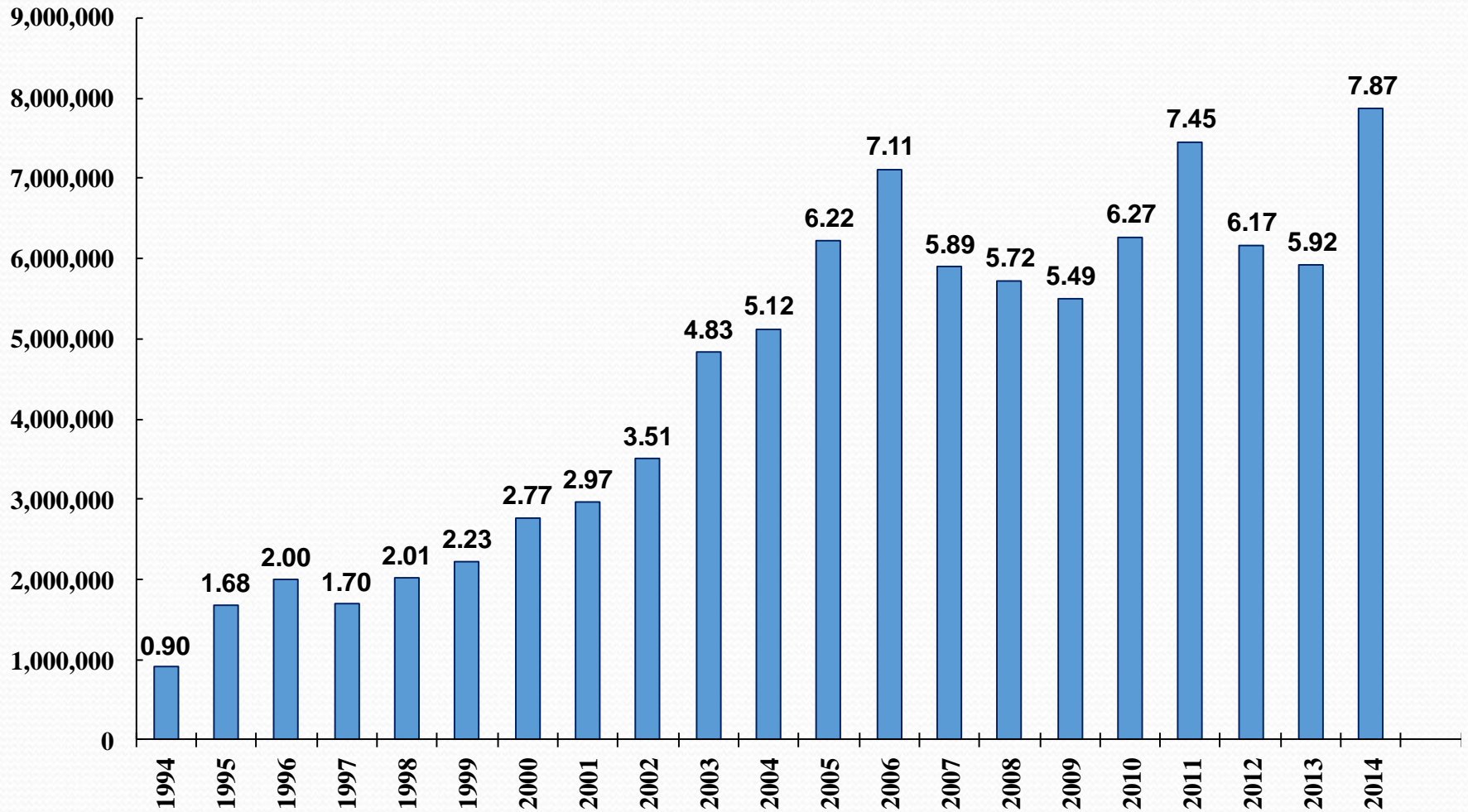
- John Rogers, Executive Director



## A. Summary of Test Results.

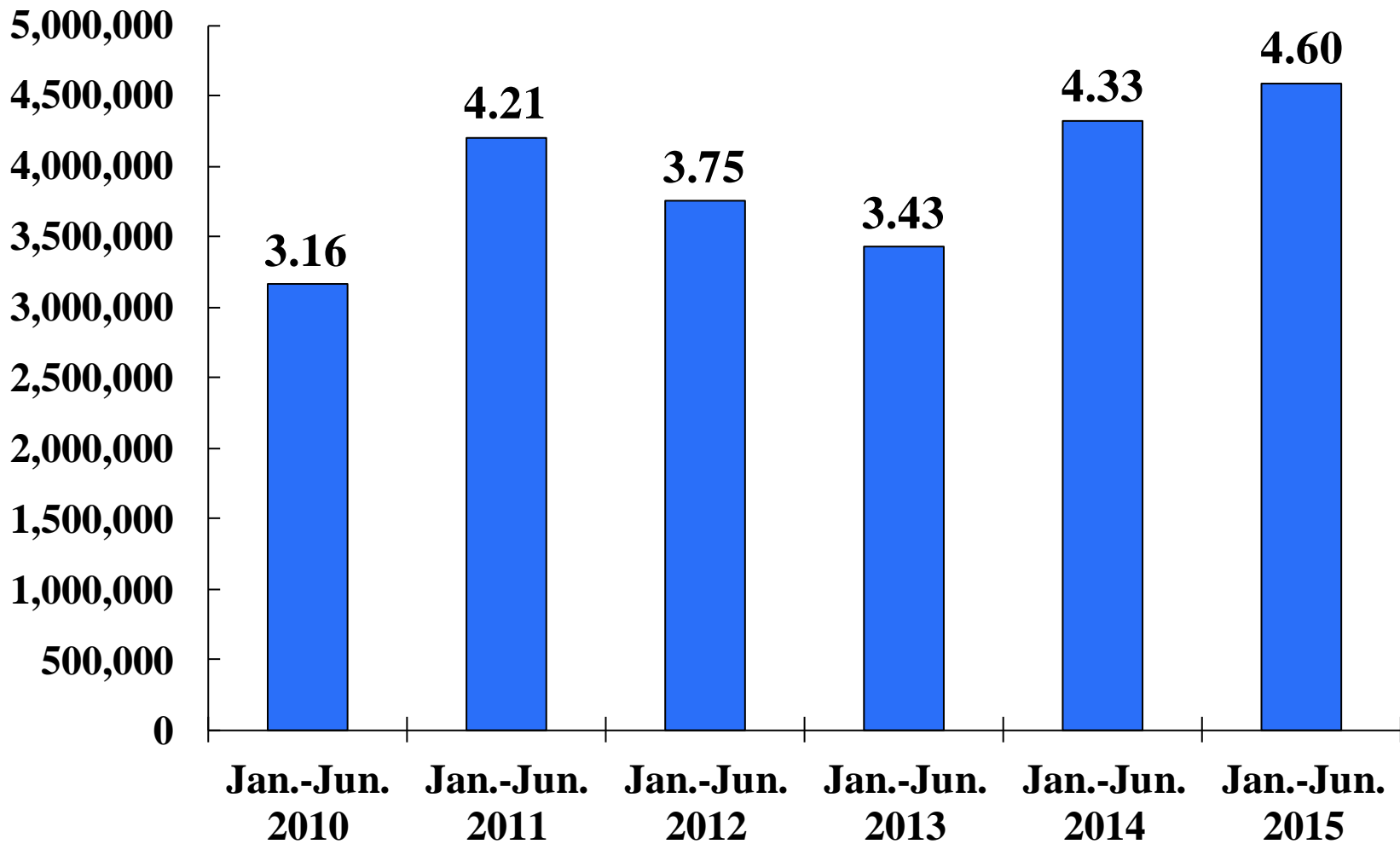
# CASES TESTED BY YEAR 1994-2014

## Quality Improvement Program



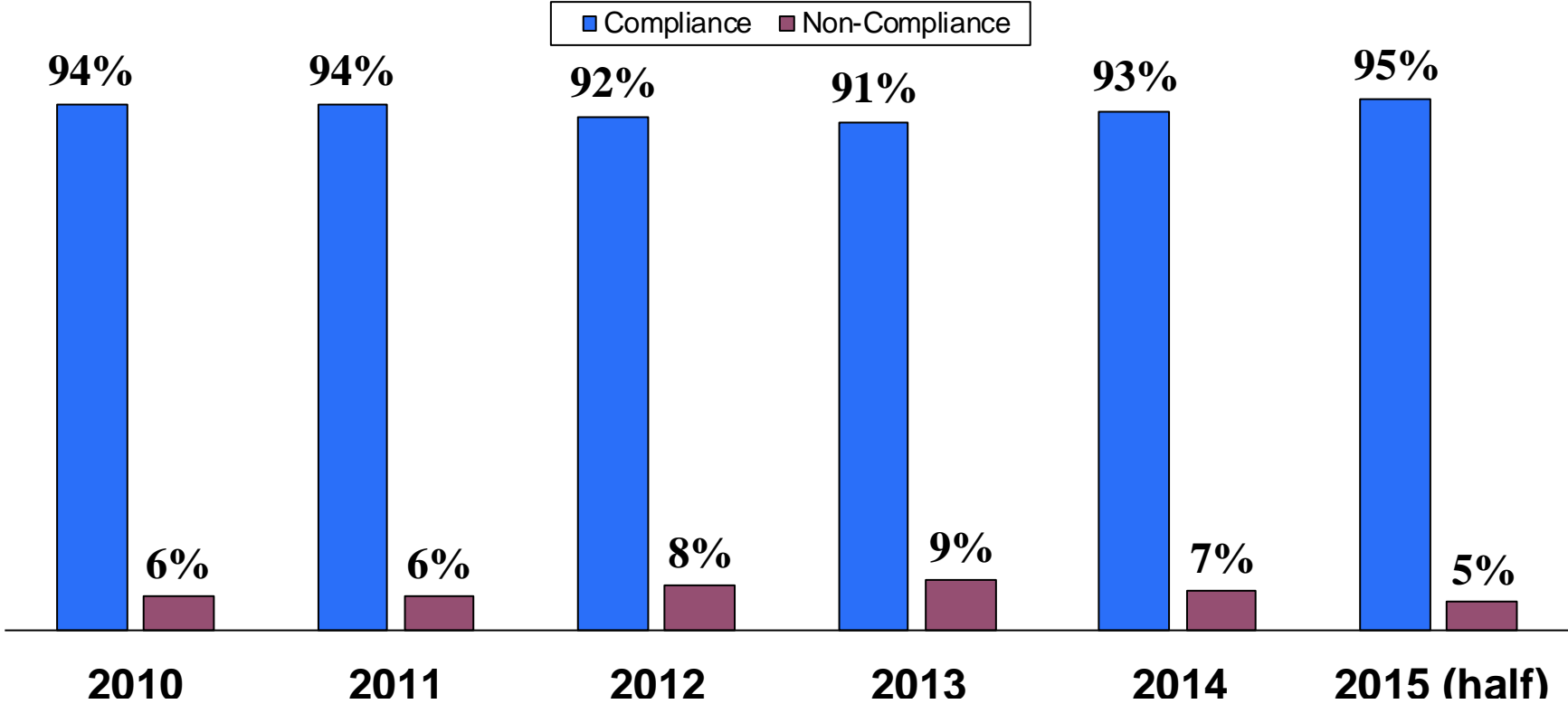
# CASES TESTED BY YEAR

## JANUARY – JUNE 2010-2015



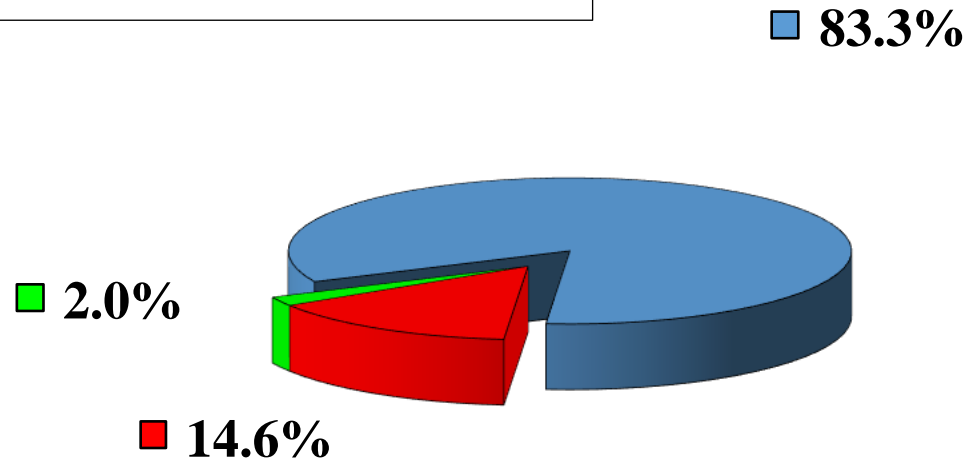
# QIP COMPLIANCE PERCENTAGE BY YEAR

## 2010 - 2015



# REGULAR, ASSORTMENT, AND COMPONENT JANUARY TO JUNE 2015

■ Regular   ■ Assortment   ■ Component



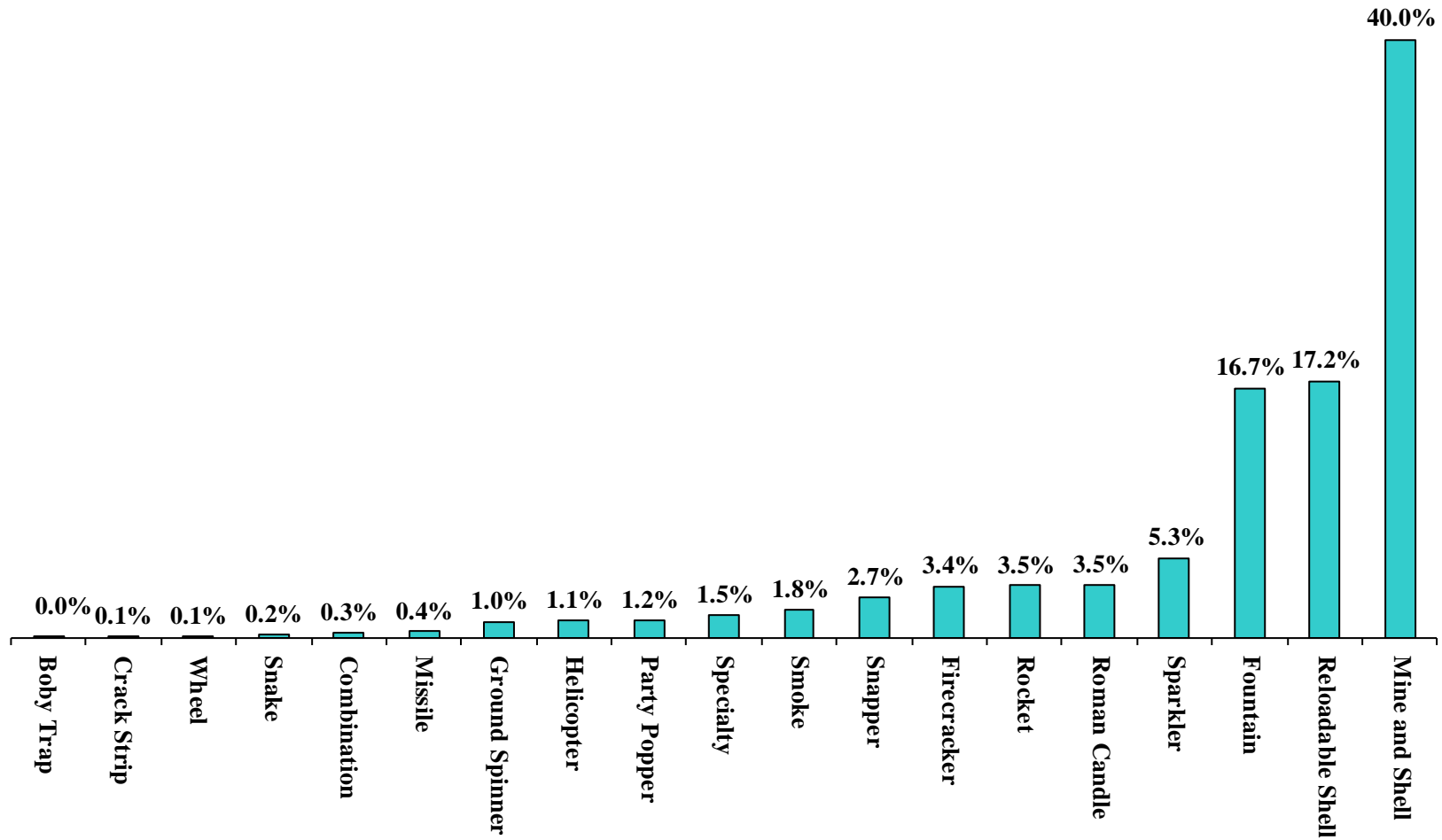
Cases tested for Regular Program: 3.82 million cases.

Cases tested for Assortment Program: 673,000 cases.

Cases tested for Component Program: 94,000

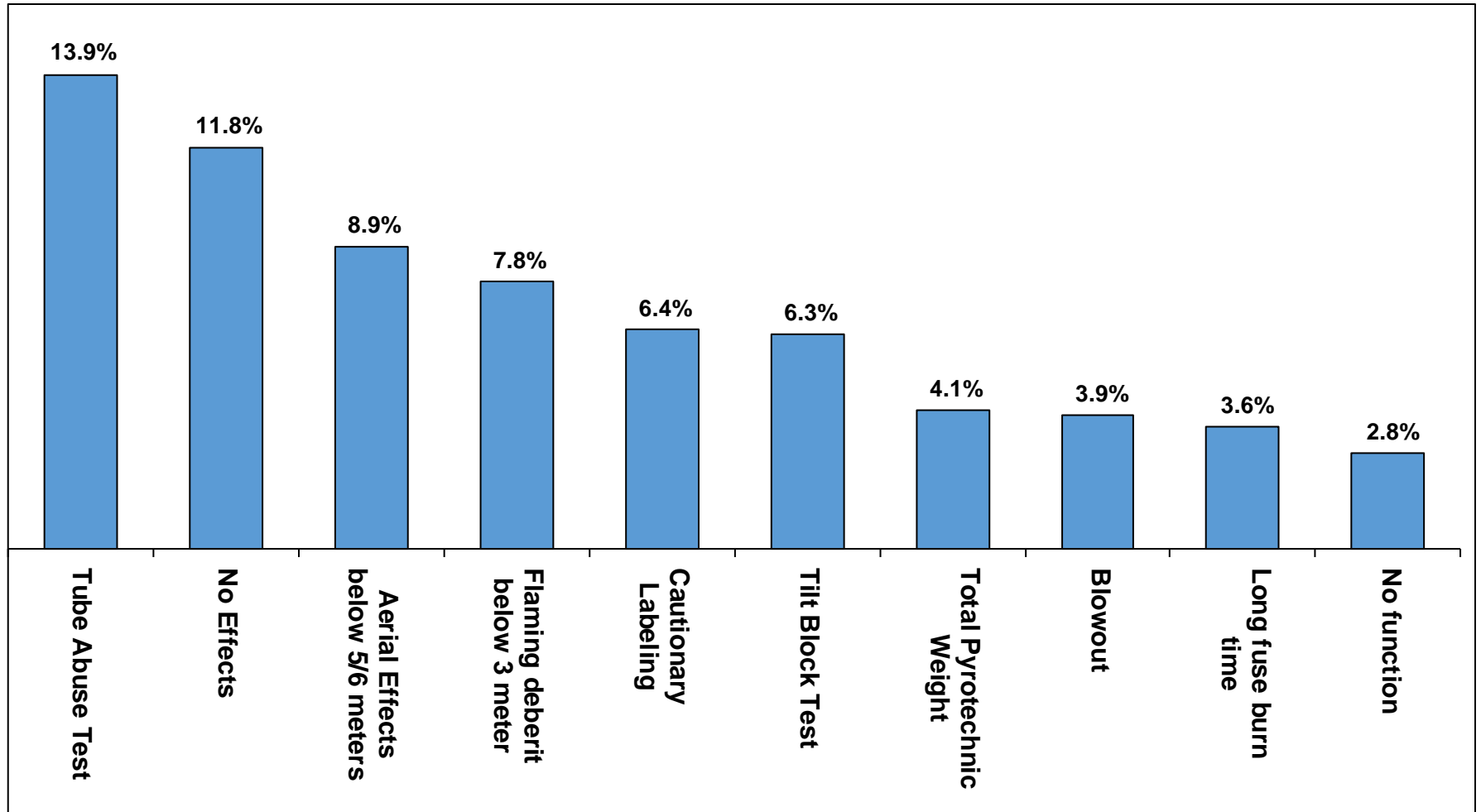
Total Cases: 4,595,359.

# PERCENTAGE TESTING BY PRODUCT CATEGORY JANUARY TO JUNE 2015



# TOP 10 VIOLATIONS JAN. TO JUN. 2015

## Percentage of Total Violations







B. New Standards Approved by the Board.

- John D. Rogers

## a. REQUIREMENTS FOR MULTIPLE TUBE MINE AND SHELL DEVICES TO ADDRESS RESIDUAL BURN

*2-1.7 The finished item, including tubes and internal construction materials, must not continue to burn or re-ignite after functioning. See Appendix L for Test Procedure.*

# SPECIAL WARNING LABEL FOR MULTIPLE TUBE MINE/SHELL DEVICES FOR RESIDUAL BURN

*4-2.10 Multiple-tube Mine and Shell Devices subject to this Standard must bear a warning label which reads: “May re-ignite. Soak with water after use.”*

**WARNING  
MAY RE-IGNITE. SOAK WITH WATER  
AFTER USE.**

***NOTE: The label must be placed on the top surface of the device, where feasible. Where not feasible, the label must be place on the flat surface closest to the fuse. The label must be consistent with AFSL labeling requirements in Appendix B.***



# RESIDUAL BURN REQUIREMENTS FOR MULTIPLE TUBE MINE AND SHELL DEVICES

**Test Procedure Effective Date: August 15, 2015**

## b. DEFINITION OF SPECIALTY ITEMS

*1-2.10 Specialty Item – A fireworks item that resembles in physical **shape and** form articles commonly recognized as appealing to ~~or intended for use by~~ children. This includes, but is not limited to, devices that resemble cartoon characters, toys, vehicles, boats, and animals and that are designed to produce limited visible audible, or motion effects”.*

**Effective Date: Immediately.**





















## c. FUSE BURN TIME REQUIREMENT

### Current Requirement:

2-1.9.2 The fuse burning time from ignition of the tip of the fuse to ignition of the device must be at least 3 seconds but not more than 9 seconds (12 seconds for Roman Candles).

37% of the failures obtained by CPSC when testing AFSL-certified samples are for fuse burn time.

# CPSC FINDINGS ON SHORT FUSE BURN TIME

<b>Lot I.D.</b>	<b>Violations failed by CPSC</b>	<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>AFSL Test Result</b>
<b>13008547</b>	<b>Short FBT</b>	<b>Fountains</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>13011805</b>	<b>Short FBT</b>	<b>Reloadable Shells</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>13010902</b>	<b>Short FBT</b>	<b>Mine &amp; Shells</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>14003988</b>	<b>Short FBT</b>	<b>Rocket</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>14002057</b>	<b>Short FBT</b>	<b>Reloadable Shells</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>13L02970</b>	<b>Short FBT</b>	<b>Smoke</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>13L02986</b>	<b>Short FBT</b>	<b>Smoke</b>	<b>CO</b>



# CPSC FINDINGS ON LONG FUSE BURN TIME

<b>Lot I.D.</b>	<b>Violations failed by CPSC</b>	<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>AFSL Test Result</b>
<b>14X01154</b>	<b>Long FBT</b>	<b>Mine &amp; Shells</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>14008784</b>	<b>Long FBT</b>	<b>Mine &amp; Shells</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>C1400131</b>	<b>Long FBT</b>	<b>Reloadable Shells</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>14X00511</b>	<b>Long FBT</b>	<b>Mine &amp; Shells</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>14001166</b>	<b>Long FBT</b>	<b>Mine &amp; Shells</b>	<b>CO</b>

# CPSC FINDINGS ON FUSE ATTACHMENT

<b>Lot I.D.</b>	<b>Violations failed by CPSC</b>	<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>AFSL Test Result</b>
<b>13007643</b>	<b>Fuse Attachment</b>	<b>Roman Candles</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>13011217</b>	<b>Fuse Attachment</b>	<b>Mine &amp; Shells</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>14X02187</b>	<b>Fuse Attachment</b>	<b>Mine &amp; Shells</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>14000665</b>	<b>Fuse Attachment, Long FBT, Short FBT</b>	<b>Reloadable shells</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>14000669</b>	<b>Fuse Attachment, Long FBT, Short FBT</b>	<b>Reloadable shells</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>13010454</b>	<b>Fuse Attachment, Long FBT</b>	<b>Roman Candles</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>13010455</b>	<b>Fuse Attachment, Long FBT</b>	<b>Roman Candles</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>13010456</b>	<b>Fuse Attachment</b>	<b>Roman Candles</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>14X00916</b>	<b>Fuse Attachment</b>	<b>Mine &amp; Shells</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>14003115</b>	<b>Fuse Attachment</b>	<b>Mine &amp; Shells</b>	<b>CO</b>

**New requirement for fuse burn time in all AFSL Standards:** “2-1.9.2 The fuse burning time from ignition of the tip of the fuse to ignition of the device must be at least **4 seconds** but not more than **8 seconds** (**11 seconds** for Roman Candles).”

**Effective Date: February 1, 2016.**

## d. FREQUENCY OF TESTING FOR ARSENIC IN SNAKES

Under the current program:

- Each Snakes Factory is audited by AFSL once every two years. (US\$1,290.00/audit).
- Every Lot of Snakes is tested for chemical analysis. (US\$57.00/Lot).

From 2011 to 2015, AFSL tested 700 Lots of Snakes. No arsenic were detected in any Lot.

## **New program:**

**The frequency of testing for Lots of Snakes will be reduced from every Lot to *randomly selected Lots*. The frequency of factory audits be reduced from every two years to *every three years*.**

- **Note: Factory audit cost decrease from US\$1,290 to US\$800.**
- **Effective Date: Immediately.**

## e. REQUIREMENTS FOR NITROCELLULOSE FOUNTAINS

### **Current Requirements under the Category of Fountains:**

1-2.7 Nitrocellulose Fountain – A fountain containing nitrocellulose (of less than 12.6% nitrogen by weight) as the primary chemical component. Metal sparks or color effects are typically produced. Devices may have a base, spike, or handle.

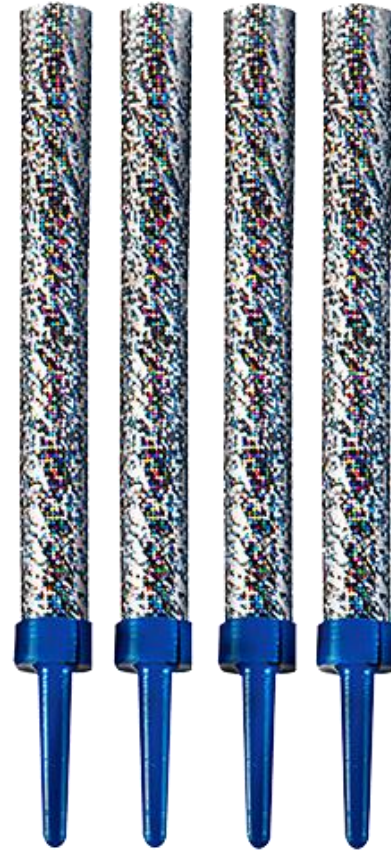
2-1.9.5 Nitrocellulose Fountains must not contain more than 15 grams (0.53 ounces) total pyrotechnic composition.

**NOTE:** Devices subject to this standard that contain 5 grams or less of total pyrotechnic composition are classified as “Specialty Items”.

2-3.4 Attached handles must have an exposed length of at least 10.2 centimeters (4 inches).


2-3.5 The distance from the bottom of the plug to the external blunt end of the spike must be at least 10.2 centimeters (4 inches) with at least 5.1 centimeters (2 inches) exposed.

**NOTE:** Nitrocellulose Fountains containing 5 grams or less of pyrotechnic composition are exempt from this requirements of section 2-3.4 and 2-3.5 above.









The Board decided to suspend the testing for Nitrocellulose Fountains pending clarifications of applicable requirements from CPSC and DOT.

Effective Date: Immediately.

## f. REQUIREMENT FOR COVERED FUSES

- In 2012, AFSL approved the requirement that all fireworks devices must have covered fuses that resist ignition from open flames, hot surfaces and incendiary sparks when tested in accordance with test procedures found in PYR 1129 – 2013 edition. The effective date was August 1, 2015.
- NFPA removed Chapter 6 and 7 in their Standard 1124, which also eliminated the requirement for covered fuses.
- AFSL Board decided to defer the implementation of the covered fuses requirement pending resolution of the issue.

## g. Charging Factories for Failed Lots

### Which Factories will be Charged?

- Factories that have a compliance rate lower than 93% from June 2014 to May 2015.

### How Much will be Charged?

- US\$0.30 per case for Regular and Assortment cases.
- US\$0.20 per case for Component cases.

# What are the Penalties for Failure to Pay the Failed Lot Fees?

- Failed Lot fees are due within 15 days from the date of notice.
- Fees for failed Lots will be considered delinquent if not paid within 30 days from the date of the notice.
- Factories that fail to pay the failed Lot fees will have all future requests for testing delayed until payments are received.

## Update on Failed Lot Charge

- Implementation Date: July 1, 2015.
- 142 of 497 factories were subject to the failed Lots charge for the third quarter of 2015.



**BREAK**



## C. Summary of Audits Conducted at Importer Warehouse

- Jerry Wingard, Project Manager



# INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRAM

## ➤ PURPOSE:


### ➤ A. Monitor Integrity of Certification Process in China.


- Application of AFSL Stickers


- Authenticity of AFSL Stickers

- AFSL Lot Identification Stamps

- Integrity of Shipping Cartons

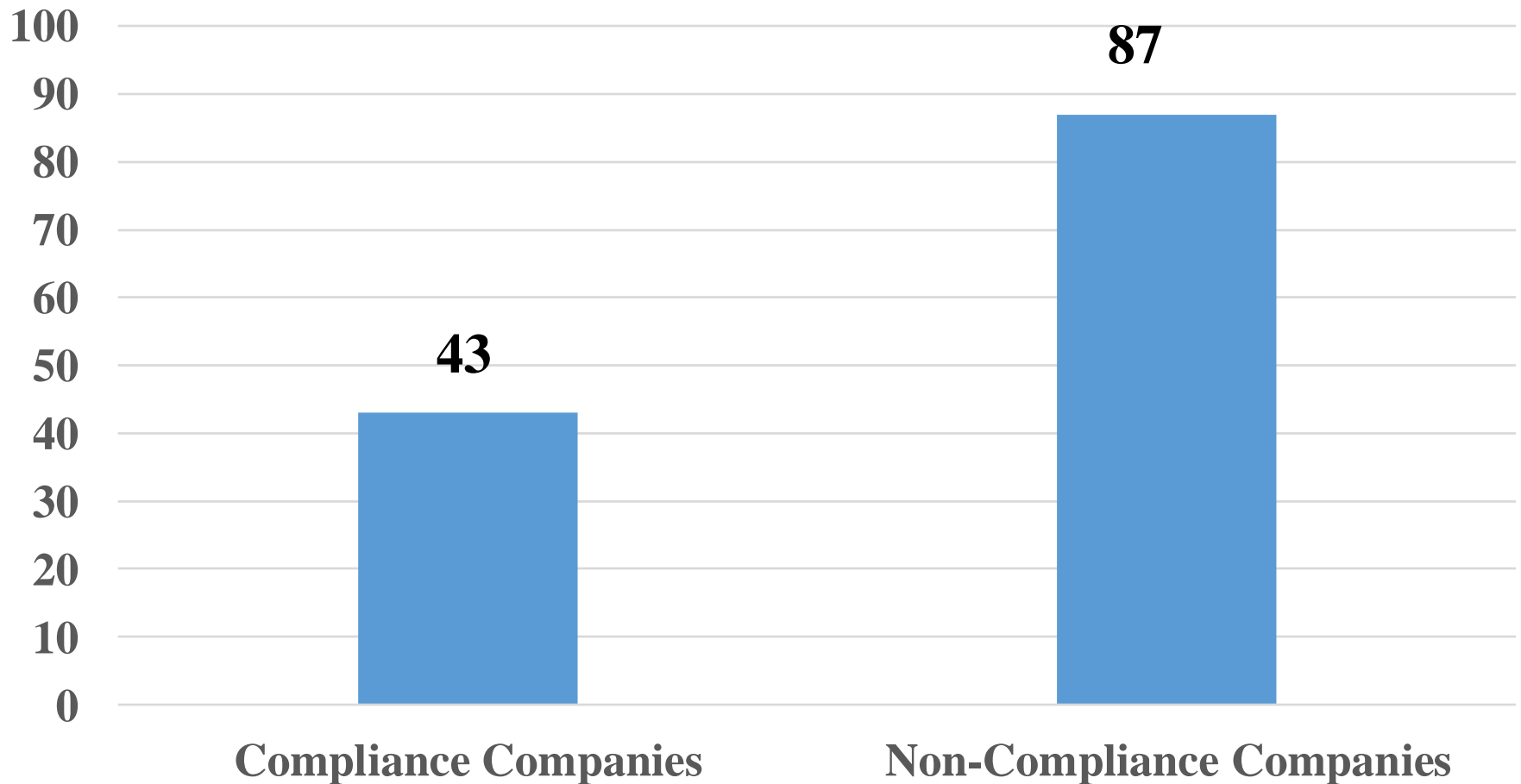
- 
- B. Assist Importers in Correcting Deficiencies in Program
    - Familiarity with Requirements of Program
    - How to Address untested Lots
    - Assuring Compliance with CPSC Certification Requirements.

- 
- C. Enhance the Integrity of the AFSL Program
    - Demonstrate that Program is Adequately Monitored
    - Improve the Credibility of the Program for Regulatory Authorities (DOT and CPSC)

- 
- Phase I - The Domestic Audit Program was initiated in October 2012 with audits of Board of Directors' companies.
  - Phase II – The general members' audits were initiated in February 2013.
  - Phase III – Re-audits were initiated in March 2015.

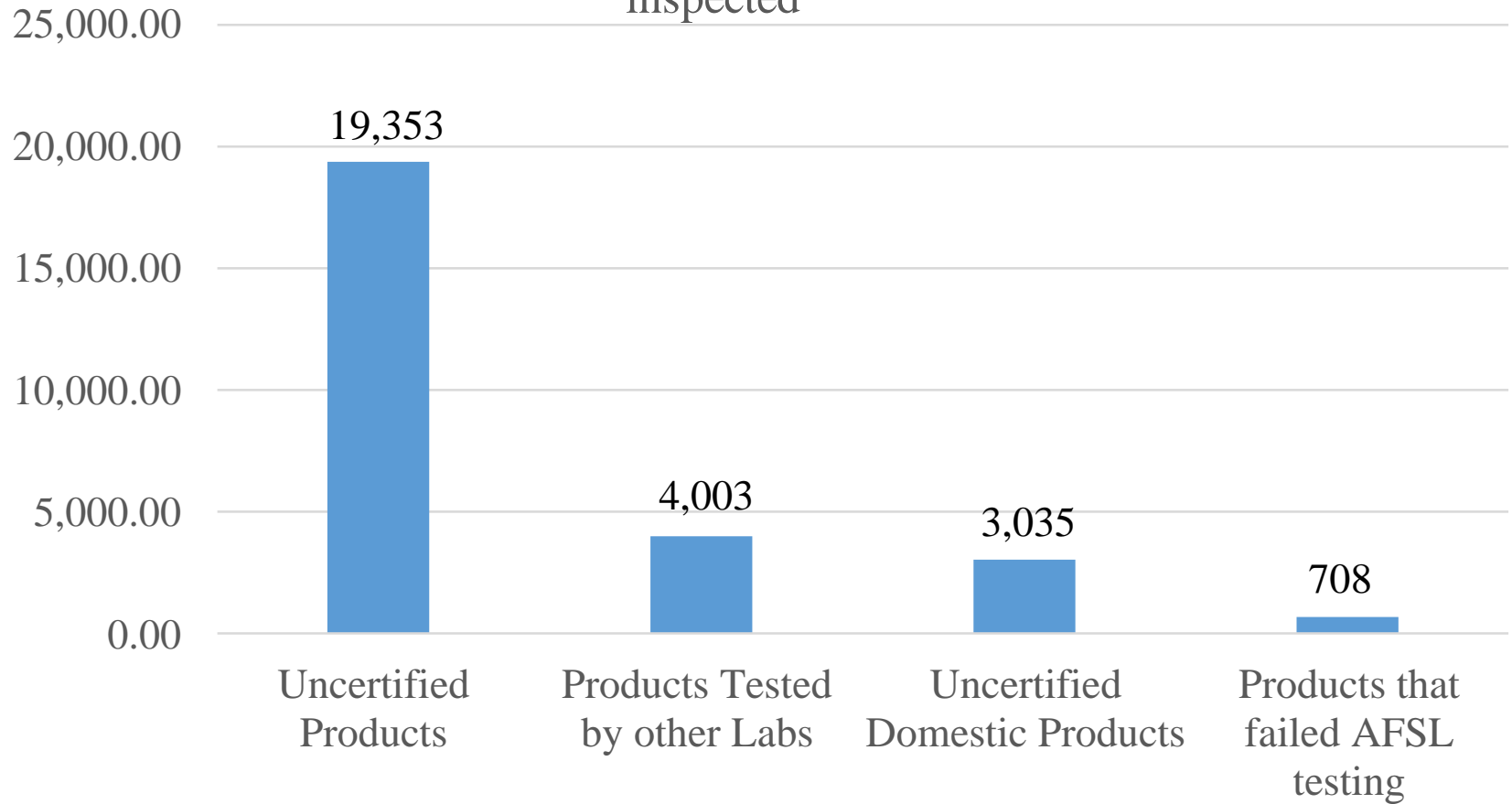
# SUMMARY OF AUDITS FROM PHASE I AND PHASE II

130 companies have been audited. The chart below shows the audit results:

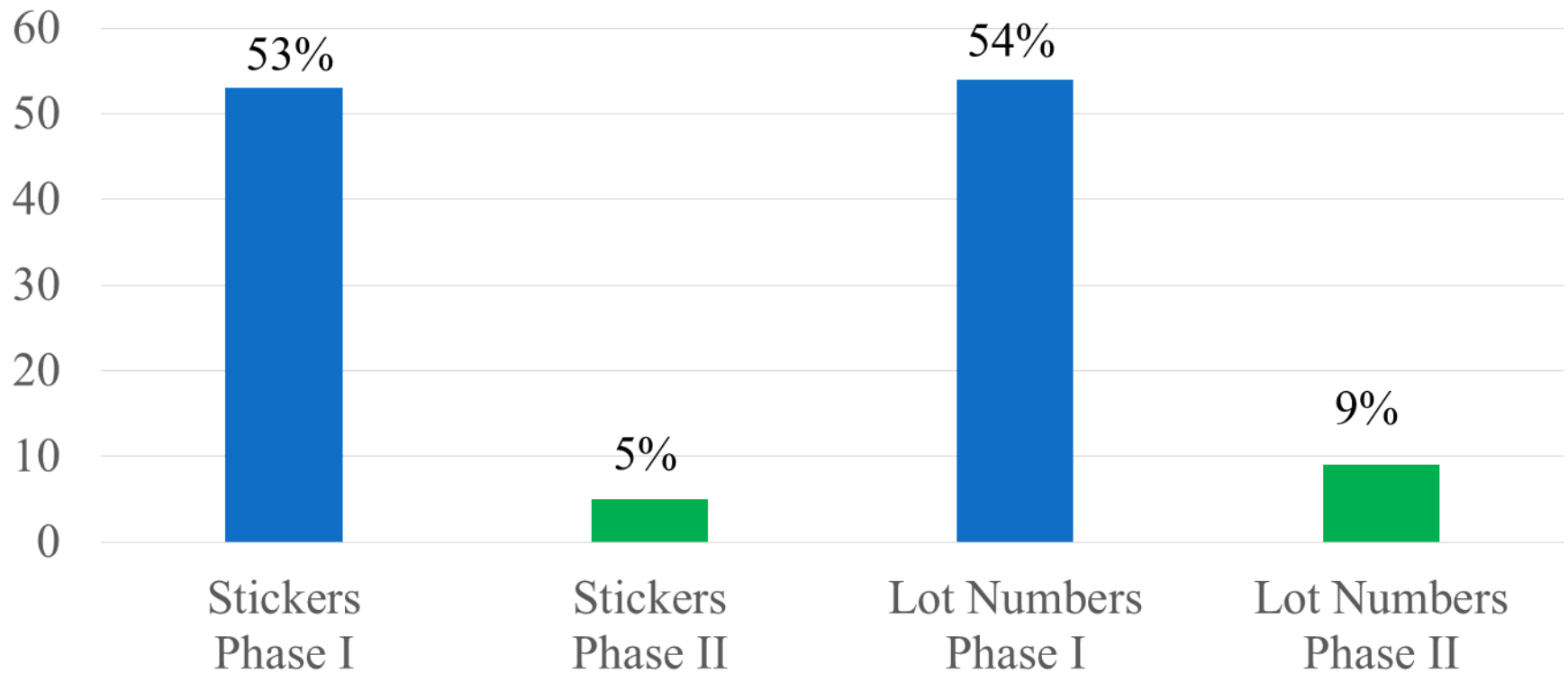


# Problems/Issues Found in Phase II Audits

During Phase II of the Audits 1,306,276 cartons were inspected



# AFSL CERTIFICATION PROCESS FINDINGS PHASE I AND II



## Finishing Phase II

- The Board has suspended 8 companies for not responding or agreeing to permit audits. 2 were re-admitted after agreeing to the audits.
- There are 8 additional companies that have not responded to requests for audits.
- If you have received phone calls and messages from AFSL please contact Jerry Wingard at 803-331-3551 as soon as possible.



## Domestic Audit Phase III

- Phase III began in March 2015 with follow-up audits of companies that scored 75% or less on their initial audits in Phase I and II. Companies that scored 100% will not be audited during Phase III.

## Domestic Audits Phase III

- As of today 16 companies have been re-audited.
- The results of these audits:
  - 8 Companies had improved their scores.
  - 5 Companies' scores had remained the same and still have violations.
  - 2 Companies' scores dropped below their last audit.
  - 1 Company refused to allow audit.



## VII. Report on Display Fireworks Testing Program

- John D. Rogers

# PARTICIPATING DISPLAY FIREWORKS IMPORTERS

## More than 50% of U.S. Market

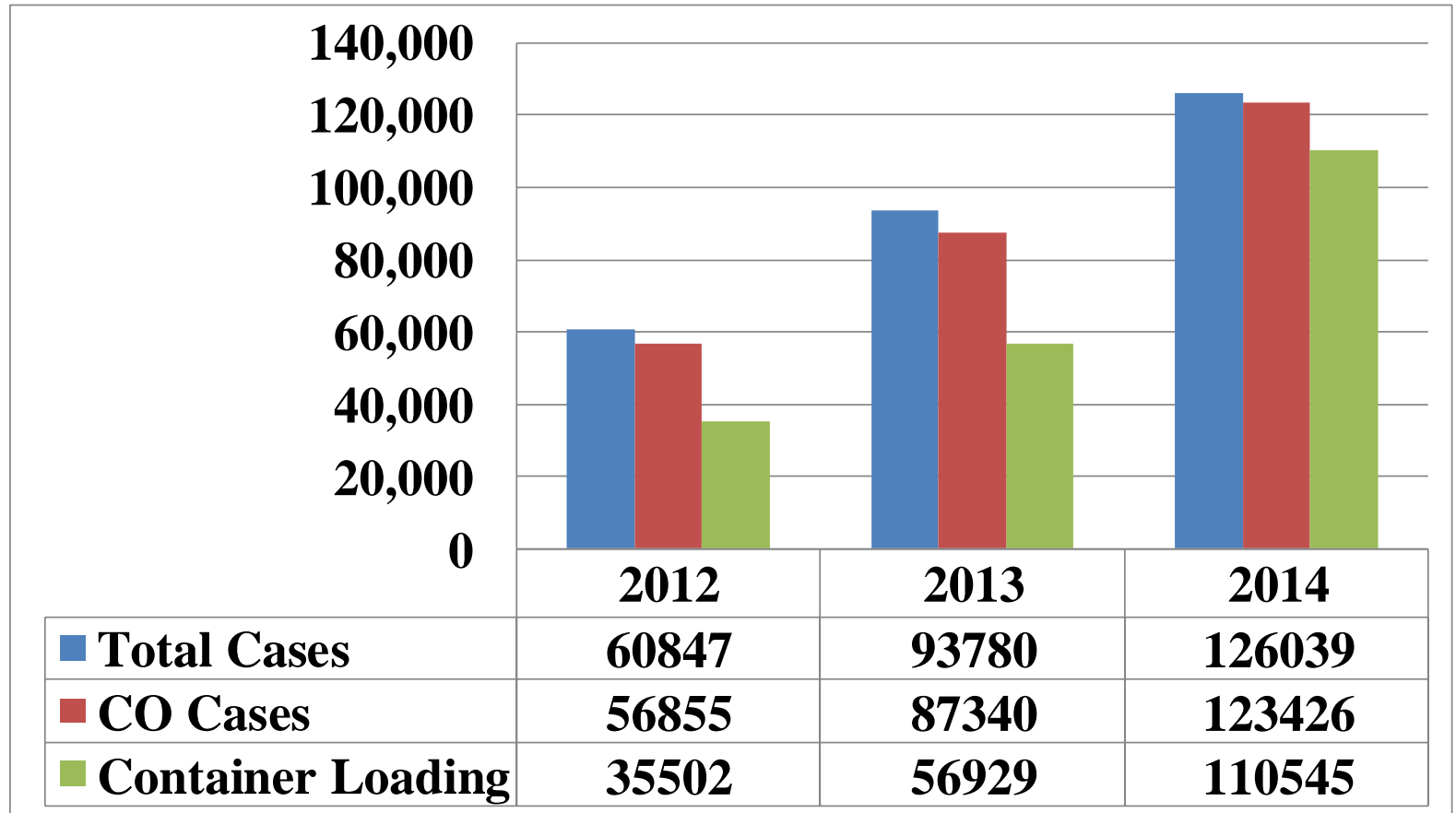
- 1 Alonzo Fireworks Display, Inc. Mechanicville, NY
- 2 Ammo Hut Productions, Inc., Claremore, OK
- 3 Arthur Rozzi Pyrotechnics, Inc., Maineville, OH
- 4 Atlas PyroVision Entertainment Group, Inc., Jaffrey, NH
- 5 Central States Fireworks, Inc., Athens, IL
- 6 Fireworks by Grucci, Brookhaven, NY
- 7 Hamburg Fireworks Display Inc., Lancaster, OH
- 8 J&M Displays, Inc., Yarmouth, IA
- 9 Kellner's Fireworks Inc., Harrisville, PA
- 10 Lew's Fireworks, Inc., Watertown, SD
- 11 Magic in the Sky, LLC, San Antonio, TX
- 12 Melrose Pyrotechnics, Inc., Kingsbury, IN
- 13 Pyro Shows, Inc., La Follette, TN
- 14 Pyro Spectaculars, Inc., Rialto, CA
- 15 Pyrotecnico, New Castle, PA
- 16 RES Specialty Pyrotechnics, Belie Plaine, MN
- 17 Starfire Corporation, Carrolltown, PA
- 18 Western Enterprises, Inc., Carrier, OK
- 19 Wolverine Fireworks Display, Inc., Kawkawlin, MI
- 20 Zambelli Fireworks, New Castle, PA

# PARTICIPATING DISPLAY FIREWORKS SHIPPERS

- 1 An Ping County Fireworks General Factory
- 2 Babytiger Fireworks Import & Export Ltd., Co.
- 3 Cenxi Wahyee Advanced Fireworks Factory
- 4 Dancing Fireworks Group
- 5 Far East San Luen Fat Trading Company
- 6 Glorious Professional Products Trading Limited
- 7 Hua Hui Fireworks Manufacturing Co., Ltd.
- 8 Hunan Cereals, Oils and Foodstuffs Import & Export Group Co., Ltd.
- 9 ICON Pyrotechnics International Co., Ltd.
- 10 Inter-Oriental Fireworks (HK) Ltd.
- 11 Jiangxi Changshan Exporting Fireworks Manufacture Co., Ltd.
- 12 Jiangxi Panda Fireworks Co., Ltd.
- 13 Jiangxi Province Lidu Fireworks Corporation Ltd.
- 14 Jiangxi Province Light Industrial Products I/E Co., Ltd.
- 15 Jiangxi Wanzai Golden Peak Fireworks Corp.
- 16 **Liuyang Goldenkey Trade Co., Ltd.**
- 17 Liuyang Jingli Fireworks Trade Co., Ltd.
- 18 Liuyang Jinsheng Fireworks Co., Ltd.
- 19 Liuyang Leping Import & Export Co., Ltd.
- 20 Liuyang Qingtai Export Trade Co., Ltd.
- 21 Liuyang Sunny Fireworks Trade Co., Ltd.
- 22 Liuyang Xiangguang Fireworks Trading Co., Ltd.
- 23 NanChang Xiangtian Imp. & Exp. Co., Ltd.
- 24 United Pyrotechnics (USA) Inc.
- 25 Yung-Feng Firecrackers & Fireworks Co., Ltd.

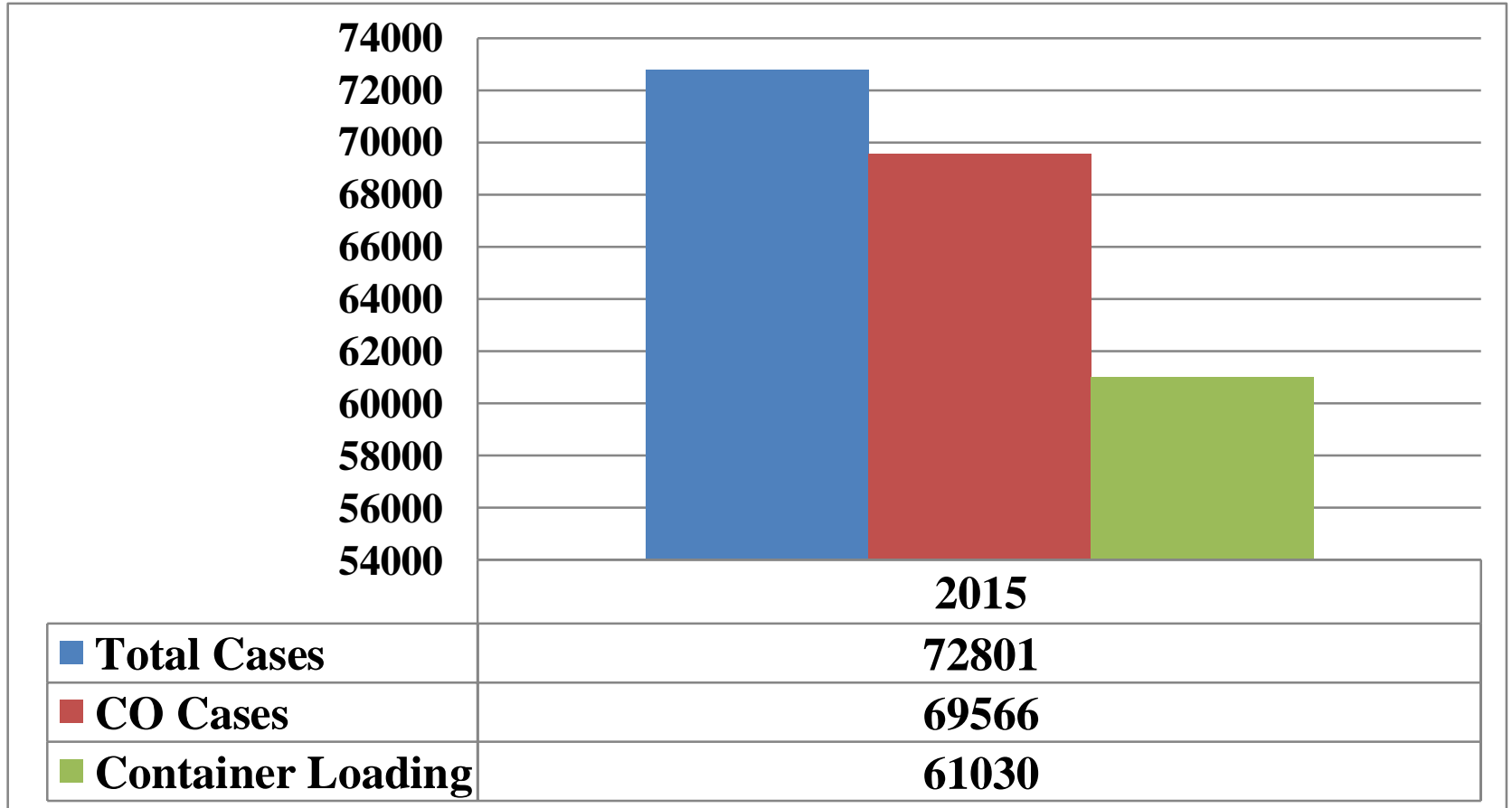
# DISPLAY FIREWORKS TEST SUMMARY

## 2012, 2013 AND 2014

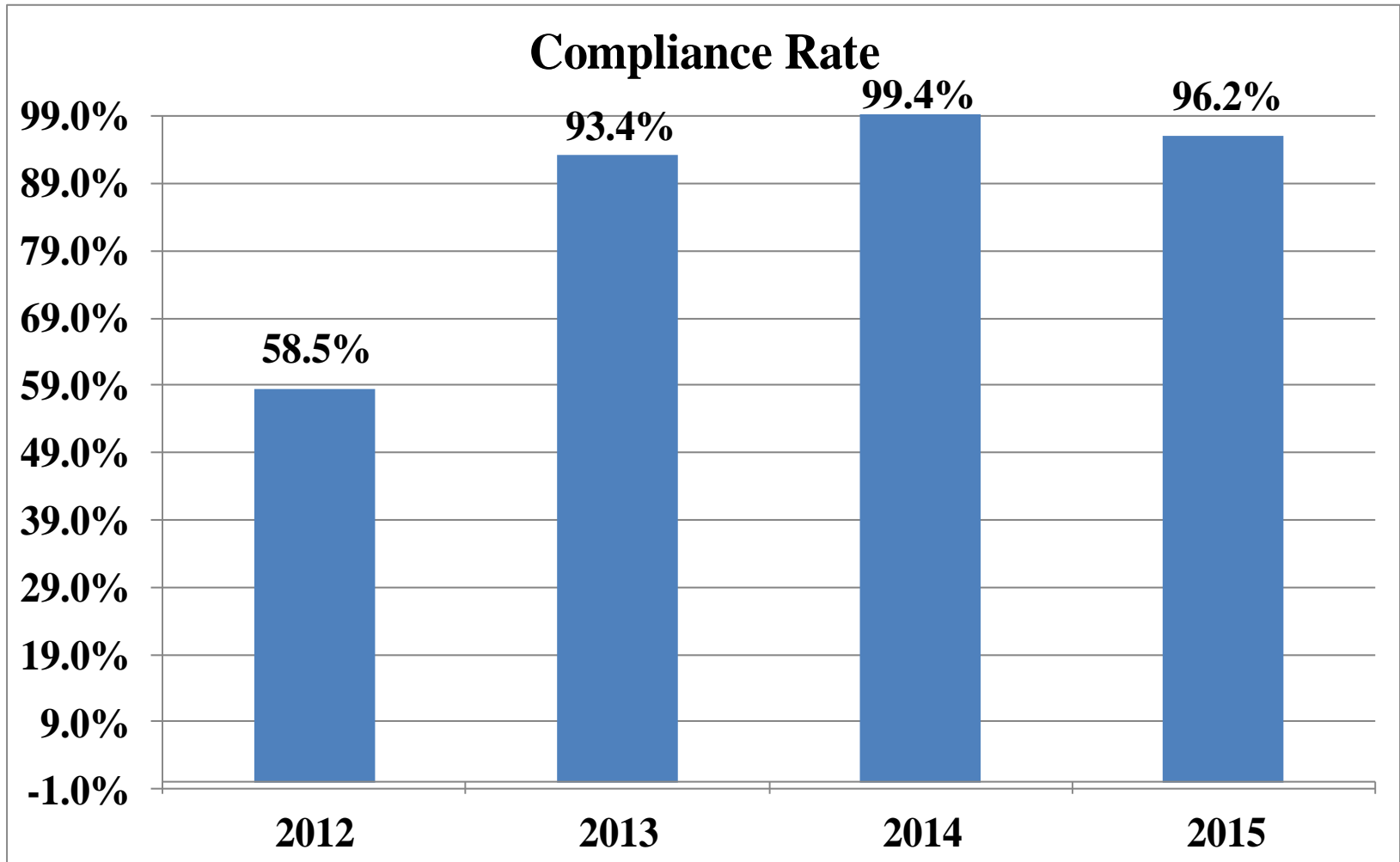


# DISPLAY FIREWORKS TEST SUMMARY

## JANUARY – AUGUST 2015



# DISPLAY FIREWORKS COMPLIANCE RATE JANUARY – JUNE 2012, 2013, 2014 AND 2015







## VIII. Election Results



## IX. Closing Remarks



# X. Questions & Answers

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

THANK YOU!

