§ 6.18 Procedure; designation of agents for service.

(a) The Commission shall promptly forward any informal complaint meeting the requirements of §6.17 to each manufacturer and provider named in or determined by the staff to be implicated by the complaint. Such manufacturer(s) or provider(s) shall be called on to satisfy or answer the complaint within the time specified by the Commission.

(b) To ensure prompt and effective service of informal and formal complaints filed under this subpart, every manufacturer and provider subject to the requirements of section 255 of the Act and this subpart, shall designate an agent, and may designate additional agents if it so chooses, upon whom service may be made of all notices, inquiries, orders, decisions, and other pronouncements of the Commission in any matter before the Commission. Such designation shall include, for both the manufacturer or the provider, a name or department designation, business address, telephone number, and, if available TTY number, facsimile number, and Internet e-mail address.

[64 FR 63251, Nov. 19, 1999, as amended at 72 FR 43559, Aug. 6, 2007; 73 FR 21252, Apr. 21, 2008]

§6.19 Answers to informal complaints.

Any manufacturer or provider to whom an informal complaint is directed by the Commission under this subpart shall file an answer within the time specified by the Commission. The answer shall:

- (a) Be prepared or formatted in the manner requested by the complainant pursuant to §6.17, unless otherwise permitted by the Commission for good cause shown;
- (b) Describe any actions that the defendant has taken or proposes to take to satisfy the complaint;
- (c) Advise the complainant and the Commission of the nature of the defense(s) claimed by the defendant;
- (d) Respond specifically to all material allegations of the complaint; and
- (e) Provide any other information or materials specified by the Commission

as relevant to its consideration of the complaint.

 $[64\ {\rm FR}\ 63251,\ {\rm Nov.}\ 19,\ 1999,\ {\rm as}\ {\rm amended}\ {\rm at}\ 72\ {\rm FR}\ 43559,\ {\rm Aug.}\ 6,\ 2007;\ 73\ {\rm FR}\ 21252,\ {\rm Apr.}\ 21,\ 2008]$

§ 6.20 Review and disposition of informal complaints.

(a) Where it appears from the defendant's answer, or from other communications with the parties, that an informal complaint has been satisfied, the Commission may, in its discretion, consider the informal complaint closed, without response to the complainant or defendant. In all other cases, the Commission shall inform the parties of its review and disposition of a complaint filed under this subpart. Where practicable, this information, the nature of which is specified in paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section, shall be transmitted to the complainant and defendant in the manner requested by the complainant, (e.g., letter, facsimile transmission, telephone (voice/TRS/TTY), Internet e-mail, ASCII text, audio-cassette recording, or braille).

(b) In the event the Commission determines, based on a review of the information provided in the informal complaint and the defendant's answer thereto, that no further action is required by the Commission with respect to the allegations contained in the informal complaint, the informal complaint shall be closed and the complainant and defendant shall be duly informed of the reasons therefor. A complainant unsatisfied with the defendant's response to the informal complaint and the staff decision to terminate action on the informal complaint may file a formal complaint with the Commission, as specified in § 6.22.

(c) In the event the Commission determines, based on a review of the information presented in the informal complaint and the defendant's answer thereto, that a material and substantial question remains as to the defendant's compliance with the requirements of this subpart, the Commission may conduct such further investigation or such further proceedings as