

September 2010: Product Recalls and Related News

Part Two of Two

by John Demas on 10/05/10

The September 2010 Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC's) recall list includes warnings about products posing choking, strangulation, laceration and impact injury risks. Other referenced items can cause fire, burn and fall hazards. Our monthly reviews of these government lists are designed to minimize your chances of purchasing dangerous products. Always try and review these lists before ever making new purchases or accepting used goods from others. Part Two of our September 2010 product recall review looks at items posing fire, burn and fall risks. This second half of our review also includes a brief CPSC news overview regarding recent investigations, statistical reports and assigned penalties. Part One of our September 2010 recall list review focused mainly on products posing choking and strangulation hazards. It also described items that can inflict laceration or impact injuries upon consumers. (Readers interested in reviewing the complete September 2010 CPSC product recall list can visit the following link:

http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prerelsep10.html).

<u>Products Posing Fire and Burn Hazards</u>

- Paradigm Electronics, of Ontario, Canada, is voluntarily recalling close to 2,200
 Subwoofer Speakers. If these speakers become overheated from lengthy use, they can create a fire risk for consumers.
- The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf®, of Los Angeles, California, has agreed to recall close to 1,600 Tea Sets. When these sets are placed in microwave ovens, some of their metallic decorations can cause fires.

 Toshiba America Information Systems, Inc., of Irvine, California, is voluntarily recalling about 41,000 Satellite T135, Satellite T135D and Satellite ProT130 Notebook Computers (sold around the world). These computers can pose burn hazards to consumers when their "plug-ins" to the AC adapters start to overheat.

Products Posing Fall Risks

- Simms Fishing Products, of Bozeman, Montana, has agreed to recall close to 3,000
 Wading Staffs. If the staffs collapse, they can pose fall risks to consumers.
- Kompan Inc., of Tacoma, Washington and BigToys Inc., of Olympia, Washington, are both voluntarily recalling about 700 Swing Sets since some of the joint connections in these sets can break and crack, creating fall hazards for consumers.

General Consumer Product Safety Commission News

Summer Season 2010 Drowning Statistics for Children

Now that the summer swimming season has come to a close for children now back in school, the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the Home Safety Council (HSC) are releasing statistical information on how many children drowned this past summer. (See:

http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml10/10332.html).

Civil Penalty Assessed Regarding Drawstrings on Children's Sweatshirts

Pro-Pac Distributing Corporation, of Gardena, California, has agreed to pay a \$125, 000 civil penalty settlement for failing to abide by the federal law which requires companies to immediately notify the government after importing children's hooded sweatshirts featuring drawstrings at the neck.

Diaper Rash Allegations Involving Pampers Still Under Investigation

As of early September 2010, the CPSC and Health Canada (HC) have *not* discovered any specific causes in the consumer incident reports they have studied linking Pampers Dry Max Diapers and diaper rash. (See:

http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml10/10331.html).

Our firm hopes that these monthly CPSC product recall reviews and brief news updates will help readers better protect themselves from being harmed by the many dangerous products that keep finding their way to the marketplace.

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