

**Voluntary Corrective Action Plans Under  
Section 15 of the Consumer Product Safety Act and  
Section 15 of the Federal Hazardous Substances Act**

DATE	FIRM AND PRODUCT	ALLEGED HAZARD	REMEDY
00/00	Bell Sports, Inc. San Jose, CA 95119  BMX Bicycle Helmet - BELLISTIC, QUALIFIER, RHYTHM	If chinstrap of bike helmet fails, helmet can come off during a fall or crash	Fix and replace/re-work rivets from chinstrap to helmet; notify dealers, retailers and consumers; & press release, plus ads.

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## Monthly Progress Report for Corrective Action Plan

CASE #: RP990150

Compliance Officer: James DeMarco

Company Name: Bell Sports, Inc.

Product: BICYCLE HELMET

Reporting Dates, From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_ Total# of Affected Products: \_\_\_\_\_

**D) PRODUCTS CORRECTED/CAPTURED BY YOUR FIRM:**

Location of Products	Total Products	Corrections This Period	Total Corrections	Percentage Corrected
with Manufacturer	_____	_____	_____	_____
with Distributor	_____	_____	_____	_____
with Retailers	_____	_____	_____	_____
with Consumers	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL:</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____

**II) NOTIFICATION MEASURES:** (Using the categories listed below, record the number of notifications attempted by your firm during this reporting period, and record the total number of notifications to date.)

	Number for This Reporting Period	Total
Billing Insert	_____	_____
Direct Mail Letter	_____	_____
Magazine	_____	_____
Newspaper	_____	_____
Pediatrician Poster	_____	_____
Phone Call	_____	_____
Product Catalog	_____	_____
Radio	_____	_____
Retail Store Poster	_____	_____
Television	_____	_____
Video News Release	_____	_____
Web Site	_____	_____
Other/Unknown	_____	_____

**III) CONSUMER AWARENESS:** (Using the categories below, record the way, by numerical quantity, consumers told you they learned of the corrective action, i.e. consumer received direct mail, read magazine, etc.)

	Number for This Reporting Period	Total
Billing Insert	_____	_____
Direct Mail Letter	_____	_____
Magazine	_____	_____
Newspaper	_____	_____
Pediatrician Poster	_____	_____
Phone Call	_____	_____
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Radio	_____	_____
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Television	_____	_____
Video News Release	_____	_____
Web Site Hits	_____	_____
Other/Unknown	_____	_____

**IV) Calls to 800 Number/Correspondence**

	# From Customers This Reporting Period	Total
800 Number	_____	_____
E-mail	_____	_____
Written Requests	_____	_____

**NOTE:** Submit completed form by the **FIRST** of EACH MONTH to Tina Adeyeye at:  
 United States Consumer Product Safety Commission, Office of Compliance  
 4330 East West Highway, Room 613  
 Bethesda, MD 20814

OR, fax report to (301) 504-0359. Address any questions to Ms. Adeyeye at (301) 504-0608, extension 1223

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MODE = MEMORY TRANSMISSION

START=APR-29 07:53

END=APR-29 07:55

FILE NO. = 068

STN NO.	COM	ABBR NO.	STATION NAME/TEL.NO.	PAGES	DURATION
001	OK	2	914083629848	007/007	00:01'45"

-CPSC COMPLIANCE -

\*\*\*\*\* -301 504 0359 - \*\*\*\*\* 301 504 0359- \*\*\*\*\*



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

RECALLS AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION

TEL: 301-504-0608

FAX: 301-504-0359

DATE: 1/1 PAGES TRANSMITTED 7 + cover

TO: Dean McGuffee

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX #: 408/362-9848

FROM: JDeMarco

REMARKS: \_\_\_\_\_

- Confirmation copy to follow by U.S. Mail
- Fax Transmission Only

NOTE: If all pages are not received, or if you have problems with this transmittal, please contact the person listed above.

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL, AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY BY TELEPHONE, AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. THANK YOU.

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*BA*

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CASE #: RP990150

Compliance Officer: James DeMarco

Company Name: Bell Sports, Inc.

Product: BICYCLE HELMET

Reporting Dates, From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_ Total# of Affected Products: \_\_\_\_\_

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Sec15 Id: RP990150

Status: Active

Statute: FHSA

Review dt: 00/00/0000

RPTYPE: Normal Mfg/Importer

CmpOfcr: jxd

Attorney: ehs

H Priority: x

Reg'l Off: Western

Team: Fireworks, Tools a

FirmInit.CAP: 04/19/1999

FirmType: Manufacturer

Firm: Bell Sports, Inc.

Mfrm cont: Dean McGuffee

Mfrm: Bell Sports, Inc.

Mfrm title: Director of Quality

Product: BICYCLE HELMET

Defect: A revit which holds chinstrap to helmet failed

Inj Desc: If helmet comes off riders head in an accid

Hazard: If chinstrap of bike helmet fails, helmet can

Samples:

How disc: Section 15 Report

IDI's:

DirCmmnt:

Notifys: Firm got first complaint on 3/9/99; stopped

Created: 04/19/1999

Corrects: Fix and replace/re-work revits from chinstra

Origin dt: 04/19/1999

Flags:

Kickoff dt: 04/19/1999

Last Actn: Enter Case - No PD Report

Done: 04/19/1999

Next Mile: Negotiate CAP

Due: 05/17/1999

Close dt: 00/00/0000

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*****
* User name:   jxd (45)                               Queue:  FS2/613-17_HP4000_PQ
* File name:                               Server: 613-17_HP4000_PS
* Directory:
* Description:
*           April 19, 1999                               8:50am
*****
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*****
*
*           j           d
*           j           d
*           jj x     x  dddd
*           j   x x   d   d
*           j     x   d   d
*           j   x x   d   d
*           j x     x  dddd
*           j   j
*           jjj
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*****
*
*           L       SSS  TTTT
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*           L       S     T   ::
*           L       SSS   T   ::
*           L       S     S   T
*           L       S   S   T   ::
*           LLLLL  SSS   T   ::
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*****
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# News from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20207

**For Immediate Release**  
**March 3, 1999**  
**Release # 99-071**

**Contact: Mark Ross**  
**(301) 504-0580 Ext. 1188**

## **CPSC, Schwinn Cycling & Fitness Announce Recall of BMX Bicycles**

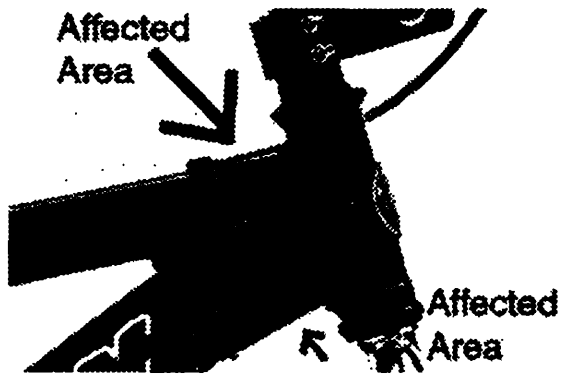
WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Schwinn Cycling & Fitness, of Boulder, Colo., is recalling approximately 2,800 BMX bicycles. Cracking can occur where the top and down tubes of the bicycle frame join the head tube, below the handlebar stem. These tubes could break apart, potentially causing the rider to lose control and fall.

Schwinn is aware of 21 reports of bicycle frames cracking during use. No injuries have been reported.

These are 1998-model Pro Stock 3 bicycles sold in both the 20-inch and 24-inch wheel sizes. The 20-inch size bicycles were sold painted black or orange, and the 24-inch size bicycles were sold painted black or green. The 24-inch model also is known as the BMX Cruiser model. These bicycles have the date code "4008" printed on a label located on the front of the head tube, below the handlebar stem. "SCHWINN" and "3 PRO STOCK" are



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written on the bicycle frame.

-more-

(schwinn) -2-

Authorized Schwinn dealers nationwide sold these bicycles from February 1998 through December 1998 for about \$300.

Consumers should immediately stop riding these bicycles and take them to an authorized Schwinn dealer to have a new, replacement frame installed free of charge. To locate your local Schwinn dealer or for more information, consumers should call Schwinn at (800) SCHWINN between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. MST Monday through Friday. Consumers also can contact Schwinn at its website at <http://www.schwinn.com>.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury and for information on CPSC's fax-on-demand service, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270. To order a press release through fax-on-demand, call (301) 504-0051 from the handset of your fax machine and enter the release number. Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov> or via Internet gopher services at <gopher.cpsc.gov>. Consumers can report product hazards to [info@cpsc.gov](mailto:info@cpsc.gov). To establish a link from your web site to this press release on CPSC's web site, create a link to the following address:  
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prere/phtml99/99071.html>. ###

**Editor's Note:** To access a full-color version of the product photo in JPEG (JPG) format, go to this press release on CPSC's web site at:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prere/phtml99/99071.html>

To download, place the cursor on the image, click and hold the mouse button (right mouse button for PC users), and use the "save as" menu to save the image in the desired location.

**Receive Press Releases by Email:** To subscribe to this convenient service, send an email containing your full name, position, organization, mailing address, email address, phone number and fax number to: [kdulic@cpsc.gov](mailto:kdulic@cpsc.gov).

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COURAGE FOR YOUR HEAD



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**COURAGE FOR YOUR HEAD**

**Bell Sports, Inc. • 6350 San Ignacio Avenue, San Jose, CA 95119 • 1-800-776-5677 • www.bellbikelhelmets.com**

1999 Bell Sports, Inc. All rights reserved. Bell Helmets are manufactured under one or more of the following U.S. patent numbers: 5,119,516 and 5,099,523. Bellistic, Courage For Your Head, Cam Lock, Sport, EVO 2, Exoskeleton, Forza 2, Franz Fusion Pro, Half Pint, Image 2000, InterCooler, Kinghead, LL Bell Shell, Rutschel, Genesis 2, Paradox, ProGuard, Qualifier, Quick Wick, Rhythm, Rubicon, Surround Ring, and Vita are trademarks of Bell Sports, Inc. Microshell is a registered trademark of Bell Sports, Inc. All other names are trademarks of their respective owners. Design/Art Director: Bill Webster. Product Photography: Irvine, CA. Action photography: Casey Gibson - pg. 18, 19 / Tom Rioran - cover, pg. 6, 7, 22, 23 / Jim Safford - pg. 1, 2, 13 / Kai Schreidheger - pg. 8, 9 / Graham Watson - page 10, 11

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Author: Alan H. Schoem at CPSC-HQ2  
Date: 4/22/99 9:26 AM  
Normal  
TO: James A. DeMarco, Carlos L. Perez, Scott R. Heh  
Subject: Re: Bell Helmet DRAFT PR

----- Message Contents

Does this helmet violate the mandatory standard because of  
this problem?

Reply Separator

---

Subject: Bell Helmet DRAFT PR  
Author: James A. DeMarco at CPSC-HQ2  
Date: 4/22/99 7:05 AM

Mark  
Look this over, I worked on it a day or two with manuf. rep.  
I'll be getting samples for you too, call with questions  
etc. please put on CPSC letterhead/OIPA format

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Author: Scott R. Heh at CPSC-HQ2

Date: 4/22/99 3:46 PM

Normal

Receipt Requested

TO: James A. DeMarco, Carlos L. Perez, Alan H. Schoem

CC: Nicholas V. Marchiça, Andrew G. Stadnik

Subject: bell helmet

----- Message Contents

FYI

I spoke with the Bell contact today. He described the problem with poorly applied rivets that secure the chin straps.

He said that it is a problem that the standards (CPSC's or other standards) does not catch. That is, these helmets with bad rivets that allow the chin strap to pop off in real world use will still pass the standard.

I am not in tomorrow (Friday) but I will be in on Monday to examine the helmet samples.

Scott

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Author: "McGuffee Dean" <Dean\_McGuffee@bellsport.com> at INTERNET-MAIL  
Date: 4/22/99 4:34 PM

Normal

TO: jdemarco@cpsc.gov at internet-mail  
BCC: James A. DeMarco at CPSC-HQ2  
Subject: RE: Re[2]: RP99-150 Bell Helmet chinstrap rivet Recall

----- Message Contents

Jay,

Attached is the draft of the PR with pictures. I am having the art department do real ones so they are better quality. I have received the print out report on the list of dealers the helmets were shipped to. The report is a computer print out 11" x 15" and is about 3 1/2" thick. Will you still want this report? I will have everything I need to send you a package Fed EX on Friday 4-23-99. I spoke with Scott Hey today regarding the samples. He said that he has not seen them yet, but would go looking for them.

Thanks,

Dean

-----Original Message-----

From: jdemarco@cpsc.gov [mailto:jdemarco@cpsc.gov]  
Sent: Wednesday, April 21, 1999 6:54 AM  
To: Dean\_McGuffee@bellsport.com  
Subject: Re[2]: RP99-150 Bell Helmet chinstrap rivet Recall

PLEASE REVIEW ATTACHED WITH CHANGES AND CALL ME WITH  
QUESTIONS. I.E. WEB SITE, 800# ETC.

Reply Separator

Subject: RE: RP99-150 Bell Helmet chinstrap rivet Recall  
Author: "McGuffee Dean" <Dean\_McGuffee@bellsport.com> at INTERNET-MAIL  
Date: 4/20/99 4:36 PM

Jay,

Attached is the first draft of the joint PR letter. I used the samples that you sent to me via fax for this draft. Please review it and let me know your comments, suggestions, or changes. Also, would you please return via e-mail to me the right address and contact that I am to ship the sample helmets to. Please review the attached and let me know as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Dean

-----Original Message-----

From: jdemarco@cpsc.gov [mailto:jdemarco@cpsc.gov]  
Sent: Monday, April 19, 1999 9:26 AM  
To: Dean\_McGuffee@bellsport.com

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Subject: RP99-150 Bell Helmet chinstrap rivet Recall

Dean,

Hope you got both my DRAFT report ltr and the original. I am going to need a few more things from you, although you did make a near complete e-mail report, I was certainly impressed. The following is still required but may not be too difficult to obtain:

- 1) samples of a helmet with OLD rivets/chinstrap and Replacement; 2 of each should be adequate..for ESME to look over. If you have any technical reports or evaluations include them too.
- 2) All the UPC codes? Or the range?
- 3) DRAFT of poster and Joint Press Release, I can send examples via FAX;
- 4) Copies of letters sent to dealers, retailers and consumers...after calls or FAXes.

Call me with questions etc. 301-504-0608 x 1353 anytime

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Author: Richard L. Stern at CPSC-HQ2

Date: 4/22/99 2:56 PM

Normal

TO: James A. DeMarco

Subject: Sample Receipt

----- Message Contents

You received a package from Bell Sports today. Judy gave them sample numbers and logged them in for you. Since you weren't in, I brought them down to your shelf in Sample Room 3.

Richard

1486

Author: Carlos L. Perez at CPSC-HQ2

Date: 4/22/99 8:26 AM

Normal

TO: Mark K. Ross at CPSC-HQ1

CC: Alan H. Schoem

TO: James A. DeMarco

Subject: Re: Bell Helmet DRAFT PR

----- Message Contents

looks ok to me

clp

Reply Separator

Subject: Bell Helmet DRAFT PR

Author: James A. DeMarco at CPSC-HQ2

Date: 4/22/99 7:05 AM

Mark

Look this over, I worked on it a day or two with manuf. rep.

I'll be getting samples for you too, call with questions

etc. please put on CPSC letterhead/OIPA format

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Author: Carlos L. Perez at CPSC-HQ2

Date: 4/22/99 8:26 AM

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TO: Mark K. Ross at CPSC-HQ1

CC: Alan H. Schoem

TO: James A. DeMarco

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Reply Separator

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I'll be getting samples for you too, call with questions

etc. please put on CPSC letterhead/OIPA format

A large, stylized handwritten signature or set of initials, possibly 'JP', located in the bottom right corner of the page.

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

**ASSIGNMENT REPORT**

<b>Assign No</b> 990514CRC0858	<b>MIS Code</b> 32442	<b>Status</b> Open	<b>Assign Type</b> Recall Check	<b>Region</b> FOCR
<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Supervisor</b> Eric B. Ault	<b>Firm</b> BELL SPORTS, INC. ROUTE 136 EAST RANTOUL, IL 61866		

<b>Assign Date</b> 5/14/99	<b>VICTIM INFORMATION</b>
<b>Target Date</b> 6/30/99	
<b>Revised Target Date</b>	
<b>Complete Date</b>	
	<b>City</b>
	<b>State/Zip</b>
	<b>Product Description</b> HELMETS
	<b>Document Number</b>
	<b>HIA No.</b>

**Remarks**

**Assignment**

Assign two effectiveness checks in your region. Determine if the recalling firm provided its customers an adequate information about the recall. Also, if the customers implemented the procedure as instructed. Report to this office must include a detailed summary of any problematic findings about the recall.

CO: Jay Demarco

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U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
**ASSIGNMENT REPORT**

<b>Assign No</b> 990514CRC0859	<b>MIS Code</b> 32442	<b>Status</b> Open	<b>Assign Type</b> Recall Check	<b>Region</b> FOCR
<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Supervisor</b> Eric B. Ault	<b>Firm</b> BELL SPORTS, INC. ROUTE 136 EAST RANTOUL, IL 61866		

<b>Assign Date</b> 5/14/99	<b>VICTIM INFORMATION</b>
<b>Target Date</b> 6/30/99	
<b>Revised Target Date</b>	
<b>Complete Date</b>	
	<b>City</b> <b>State/Zip</b> <b>Product Description</b> HELMETS <b>Document Number</b> <b>HIA No.</b>

**Remarks**

**Assignment**

Assign two effectiveness checks in your region. Determine if the recalling firm provided its customers an adequate information about the recall. Also, if the customers implemented the procedure as instructed. Report to this office must include a detailed summary of any problematic findings about the recall.

CO: Jay Demarco

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U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

**ASSIGNMENT REPORT**

<b>Assign No</b> 990514CRC0860	<b>MIS Code</b> 32442	<b>Status</b> Open	<b>Assign Type</b> Recall Check	<b>Region</b> FOER
<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Supervisor</b> Richard D. Swackhamer	<b>Firm</b> BELL SPORTS, INC. ROUTE 136 EAST RANTOUL, IL 61866		
<b>Assign Date</b> 5/14/99	<b>Target Date</b> 6/30/99	<b>VICTIM INFORMATION</b>		
<b>Revised Target Date</b>	<b>Complete Date</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>State/Zip</b>	<b>Product Description</b> HELMETS
		<b>Document Number</b>		
		<b>HIA No.</b>		
<b>Remarks</b>				
<b>Assignment</b>				
<p>Assign two effectiveness checks in your region. Determine if the recalling firm provided its customers an adequate information about the recall. Also, if the customers implemented the procedure as instructed. Report to this office must include a detailed summary of any problematic findings about the recall.</p> <p>CO: Jay Demarco</p>				

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U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
ASSIGNMENT REPORT

<b>Assign No</b> 990514CRC0861	<b>MIS Code</b> 32442	<b>Status</b> Open	<b>Assign Type</b> Recall Check	<b>Region</b> FOER
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<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Supervisor</b> Richard D. Swackhamer	<b>Firm</b> BELL SPORTS, INC. ROUTE 136 EAST RANTOUL, IL 61866
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<b>Assign Date</b> 5/14/99	<b>VICTIM INFORMATION</b>
<b>Target Date</b> 6/30/99	
<b>Revised Target Date</b>	
<b>Complete Date</b>	
	<b>City</b>
	<b>State/Zip</b>
	<b>Product Description</b> HELMETS
	<b>Document Number</b>
	<b>HIA No.</b>

**Remarks**

**Assignment**

Assign two effectiveness checks in your region. Determine if the recalling firm provided its customers an adequate information about the recall. Also, if the customers implemented the procedure as instructed. Report to this office must include a detailed summary of any problematic findings about the recall.

CO: Jay Demarco

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U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

**ASSIGNMENT REPORT**

<b>Assign No</b> 990514CRC0862	<b>MIS Code</b> 32442	<b>Status</b> Open	<b>Assign Type</b> Recall Check	<b>Region</b> FOWR
<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Supervisor</b> Frank J. Nava	<b>Firm</b> BELL SPORTS, INC. ROUTE 136 EAST RANTOUL, IL 61866		

<b>Assign Date</b> 5/14/99	<b>Target Date</b> 6/30/99	<b>VICTIM INFORMATION</b>		
<b>Revised Target Date</b>	<b>Complete Date</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>State/Zip</b>	<b>Product Description</b> HELMETS
		<b>Document Number</b>		
		<b>HIA No.</b>		

**Remarks**

**Assignment**

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CO: Jay Demarco

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U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

**ASSIGNMENT REPORT**

<b>Assign No</b> 990514CRC0863	<b>MIS Code</b> 32442	<b>Status</b> Open	<b>Assign Type</b> Recall Check	<b>Region</b> FOWR
<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Supervisor</b> Frank J. Nava	<b>Firm</b> BELL SPORTS, INC. ROUTE 136 EAST RANTOUL, IL 61866		

<b>Assign Date</b> 5/14/99	<b>VICTIM INFORMATION</b>
<b>Target Date</b> 6/30/99	
<b>Revised Target Date</b>	
<b>Complete Date</b>	
	<b>City</b>
	<b>State/Zip</b>
	<b>Product Description</b> HELMETS
	<b>Document Number</b>
	<b>HIA No.</b>

**Remarks**

**Assignment**

Assign two effectiveness checks in your region. Determine if the recalling firm provided its customers an adequate information about the recall. Also, if the customers implemented the procedure as instructed. Report to this office must include a detailed summary of any problematic findings about the recall.

CO: Jay Demarco

154

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
ASSIGNMENT REPORT

<b>Assign No</b> 990514CRC0864	<b>MIS Code</b> 32442	<b>Status</b> Open	<b>Assign Type</b> Recall Check	<b>Region</b> MASC
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<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Supervisor</b> Bruce E. Schwartz	<b>Firm</b> BELL SPORTS, INC. ROUTE 136 EAST RANTOUL, IL 61866
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<b>Assign Date</b> 5/14/99 <b>Target Date</b> 6/30/99 <b>Revised Target Date</b> <b>Complete Date</b>	<b>VICTIM INFORMATION</b>
	<b>City</b> <b>State/Zip</b> <b>Product Description</b> HELMETS <b>Document Number</b> <b>HIA No.</b>

**Remarks**

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CO: Jay Demarco

157

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
ASSIGNMENT REPORT

<b>Assign No</b> 990514CRC0865	<b>MIS Code</b> 32442	<b>Status</b> Open	<b>Assign Type</b> Recall Check	<b>Region</b> MASC
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<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Supervisor</b> Bruce E. Schwartz	<b>Firm</b> BELL SPORTS, INC. ROUTE 136 EAST RANTOUL, IL 61866
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<b>Assign Date</b> 5/14/99	<b>VICTIM INFORMATION</b>
<b>Target Date</b> 6/30/99	
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158

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC), Bell Sports Inc., of San Jose, CA are voluntarily recalling 5,889 helmets used for BMX bicycle riding/racing and Downhill Mountain biking/racing. A potential defect with improperly set retention strap rivets could allow the helmet to come off of the riders head in the event of a fall or an accident. If the helmet were to come off during an accident, serious head injury could result.

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Consumers/owners should immediately stop using the helmets and call Bell Consumer Services at 1-800-456-BELL or mail the helmet to Bell Sports at Bell Sports Inc.

Rt. 136 East  
Rantoul, IL 61866  
ATT: BMX Department

for immediate repair of the chinstrap rivets/and or replacement. For more information call 1-800-456-BELL. between the hours of 8am and 5 pm CDT M-F. Consumers can also contact BELL thru their website at [www.bellsports.com](http://www.bellsports.com)

RHYTHM/BELLISTIC



QUALIFIER



159

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC), Bell Sports Inc., of San Jose, CA are voluntarily recalling 5,889 helmets used for BMX bicycle riding/racing and Downhill Mountain biking/racing. A potential defect with improperly set retention strap rivets could allow the helmet to come off of the riders head in the event of a fall or an accident. If the helmet were to come off during an accident, serious head injury could result.

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RHYTHM/BELLISTIC



QUALIFIER



140

rprecerlscov

# EXCE NEWS RELEASE REVIEW/CLEARANCE

DATE: April 23, 1999

SUBJECT OF RELEASE: RP990150

PROPOSED RELEASE DATE : 4/29/99

RECALL PRIORITY CLASS: X

SECTION 15 RECALL: XXX

CIVIL PENALTY SETTLEMENT:

For additional information contact: JAY DEMARCO X 1353

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY: FIRM REPORTED ON 4/19 UNDER NO PD PILOT PROGRAM ABT POTENTIAL CHINSTRAP FAILURE ON BIKE HELMET. CAP IS UNDERWAY.

The exact text of the proposed release has been negotiated with the firm. Any changes must be conveyed to EXCE for possible renegotiations with this firm.

Products available?  Yes  No

Photos available?  Yes  No

Clearance Office	Signature	Approve	Disapprove	Date	6(b)6
CO/Atty	<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		4/23/99	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		04/23/99	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CE Dvsn. Director	<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		4/23/99	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
EXCE					
EXHR					
EXPA					
OGC					
OEX					

OGC and OEX should each return this form and the attached release to EXPA after it has been reviewed and initialed/signed. The 6(b)6 column indicates clearance is in accordance with CPSC Directive 1450.2 concerning whether the information is accurate and not misleading.

8/94

161

rprecerlscov

# EXCE NEWS RELEASE REVIEW/CLEARANCE

DATE: April 27, 1999

SUBJECT OF RELEASE: RP990150

PROPOSED RELEASE DATE : 4/29/99

RECALL PRIORITY CLASS: X

SECTION 15 RECALL: XXX

CIVIL PENALTY SETTLEMENT:

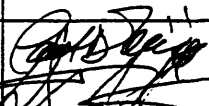
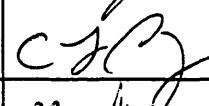
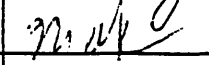
For additional information contact: JAY DEMARCO X 1353

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Products available?  Yes  No

Photos available?  Yes  No

Clearance Office	Signature	Approve	Disapprove	Date	6(b)6
CO/Atty		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		4/27/99 04/22/99	✓
CE Dvsn. Director		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		4/22/99	✓
EXCE				4/27/99	✓
EXHR					
EXPA					
OGC					
OEX					

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8/94

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# News from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20207

For Immediate Release  
April, 1999  
Release # 99-

Contact:  
(301) 504-0580 Ext. 2211

## CPSC, Bell Sports Inc. Announce Recall of Bicycle Helmets

WASHINGTON, D.C. – In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Bell Sports Inc., of San Jose, Calif., is voluntarily recalling about 5,800 bicycle helmets used for BMX and downhill mountain biking and racing. A defect with the helmets' chin strap rivets can result in the helmet coming off the rider's head in the event of a fall or crash. If the helmet comes off, serious head injury could result.

Bell Sports is aware of one incident where the chin strap assembly became detached from a helmet during a crash. No injury was reported.

These bike helmets are red, green, black, and "Tear Away," which is multicolored. They were sold under the model names Rhythm, Bellistic and Qualifier, which is written on their packaging. The recalled helmets have date stickers inside reading October 1998 through March 1999. "BELL" is written on the sides of these helmets and on the visors.



Rythm



Bellistic



Qualifier

Independent bicycle dealers nationwide sold these helmets from October 1999 through April 1999 for between \$90 and \$125.

Consumers should stop using these helmets immediately, until they are repaired or replaced. For more information, consumers should call Bell Sports at (800) 456-BELL between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. CDT Monday through Friday. For a free replacement helmet, including shipping costs, consumers should mail their helmets to Bell Sports Inc., Route 136 East, Rantoul, IL 61866, ATTN: BMX Department. Consumers also can contact Bell Sports through their website at [www.bellsports.com](http://www.bellsports.com).

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270, or visit CPSC's web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov/talk.html>. For information on CPSC's fax-on-demand service, call the above numbers or visit the web site at <http://cpsc.gov/about/who.html>. To order a press release through fax-on-demand, call (301) 504-0051 from the handset of your fax machine and enter the release number. Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov>. To establish a link from your web site to this press release on CPSC's web site, create a link to the following address: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml99/99XXX.html>. ####

**Editor's Note:** To access a full-color version of the product photo in JPEG (JPG) format, go to this press release on CPSC's web site at:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml99/99XXX.html>

To download, place the cursor on the image, click and hold the mouse button (right mouse button for PC users), and use the "save as" menu to save the image in the desired location.

**Receive Press Releases by Email:** To subscribe to this convenient service, send an email containing your full name, position, organization, mailing address, email address, phone number and fax number to: [kdulic@cpsc.gov](mailto:kdulic@cpsc.gov).

*File of  
January  
j*

163

(helmets)

over 600

-2-

Nationwide

Independent bicycle dealers sold these helmets from October 1999 through April 1999 for between \$90 and \$125.

Consumers should stop using these helmets immediately, until they are repaired or replaced. ~~To order the repair kit~~ For more information, consumers should call Bell Sports at (800) 456-BELL between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. CDT Monday through Friday. For a free replacement helmet consumers should mail their helmets to Bell Sports Inc., Route 136 East, Rantoul, IL 61866, ATTN: BMX Department. Consumers also contact Bell Sports through their website at [www.bellsports.com](http://www.bellsports.com).

DRAFT

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**Receive Press Releases by Email:** To subscribe to this convenient service, send an email containing your full name, position, organization, mailing address, email address, phone number and fax number to: [kdulic@cpsc.gov](mailto:kdulic@cpsc.gov).

DRAFT

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# News from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20207

For Immediate Release  
April, 1999  
Release # 99-

Contact:  
(301) 504-0580 ext. 2211

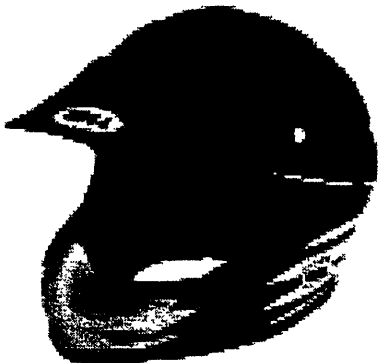
**DRAFT**

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Rythm



Bellistic



Qualifier

**DRAFT**

-more-

165

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*Sent to  
DIPA  
Mark Ross*

*164*

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167

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168

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169



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170

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171

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**SAFETY ALERT FROM BELL SPORTS INC.**

Bell Sports, Inc. Has received information indicating that some 1999 models Qualifier, Rhythm and Bellistic BMX and Downhill helmets purchased between December of 1998 and March 1999 may have a manufacture defect in the retention system which could cause the helmet to be ejected in an accident.

We have been advised by your local Bell Sports dealer that you may have purchased one of these helmets. If so, please **discontinue the use of the helmet immediately**, and instructions on the return of your helmet for examination,

~~jay~~

check this out.

Let's talk

Scott, 1308

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174

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In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC), Bell Sports Inc., of San Jose, CA are voluntarily recalling 5,889 helmets used for BMX bicycle riding/racing and Downhill Mountain biking/racing. A potential defect with improperly set retention strap rivets could allow the helmet to come off of the riders head in the event of a fall or an accident. If the helmet were to come off during an accident, serious head injury could result.

Bell Sports, Inc, is aware of one incident, without injury, where the chin strap assembly became detached from a Rhythm model helmet during an accident. Bell Sports is unaware of any other reported incidences.

The models affected are sold under the names Rhythm, Bellistic, and Qualifier. The date codes for the helmets are October 98 through March 99. They were sold to 690 Independent Bicycle Dealers for between \$90-\$125. The affected helmets have the model name Rhythm, Bellistic, and Qualifier marked on the outer carton and come in the following colors: Bright Red, Bright Green, Tear Away (Multi color), Black and White.

Consumers/owners should immediately stop using the helmets and call Bell Consumer Services at 1-800-456-BELL or mail the helmet to Bell Sports at  
Bell Sports Inc.  
Rt. 136 East  
Rantoul, IL 61866  
ATT: BMX Department

for immediate repair of the chinstrap rivets/and or replacement. For more information call 1-800-456-BELL. between the hours of 8am and 5 pm CDT M-F. Consumers can also contact BELL thru their website at [www.bellsports.com](http://www.bellsports.com)

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\* User name: jxd (35) Queue: FS2/613-17\_HP4000\_PQ \*  
\* File name: Server: 613-17\_HP4000\_PS \*  
\* Directory: \*  
\* Description: Message - RE: Re[2]: RP99-150 Bell Helmet chins \*  
\* April 21, 1999 2:52pm \*  
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Author: "McGuffee Dean" <Dean\_McGuffee@bellsport.com> at INTERNET-MAIL  
Date: 4/21/99 11:20 AM  
Normal  
TO: jdemarco@cpsc.gov at internet-mail  
BCC: James A. DeMarco at CPSC-HQ2  
Subject: RE: Re[2]: RP99-150 Bell Helmet chinstrap rivet Recall

----- Message Contents

Thanks for the draft. I have modified it only a little to add the items that you raised. Please review it and get back to me. Also, during our investigation, we have found that some helmets do not have the model designation sticker on the inside of the helmet. In order to help the consumer to easily identify if there helmet falls under this recall, I would suggest that we place a digital photo of each helmet model at the end of the PR announcement. What do you think? As far as the helmet not having a model designation sticker, I have already started the CAR to ensure that it does not happen again.

Thanks for your help.

Dean

-----Original Message-----

From: jdemarco@cpsc.gov [mailto:jdemarco@cpsc.gov]  
Sent: Wednesday, April 21, 1999 6:54 AM  
To: Dean\_McGuffee@bellsport.com  
Subject: Re[2]: RP99-150 Bell Helmet chinstrap rivet Recall

PLEASE REVIEW ATTACHED WITH CHANGES AND CALL ME WITH  
QUESTIONS. I.E. WEB SITE, 800# ETC.

Reply Separator

Subject: RE: RP99-150 Bell Helmet chinstrap rivet Recall  
Author: "McGuffee Dean" <Dean\_McGuffee@bellsport.com> at INTERNET-MAIL  
Date: 4/20/99 4:36 PM

Jay,

Attached is the first draft of the joint PR letter. I used the samples that you sent to me via fax for this draft. Please review it and let me know your comments, suggestions, or changes. Also, would you please return via e-mail to me the right address and contact that I am to ship the sample helmets to. Please review the attached and let me know as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Dean

-----Original Message-----

From: jdemarco@cpsc.gov [mailto:jdemarco@cpsc.gov]  
Sent: Monday, April 19, 1999 9:26 AM  
To: Dean\_McGuffee@bellsport.com  
Subject: RP99-150 Bell Helmet chinstrap rivet Recall

Dean,

Hope you got both my DRAFT report ltr and the original. I am going to need a few more things from you, although you did make a near complete e-mail report, I was certainly impressed. The following is still required but may not be too difficult to obtain:

- 1) samples of a helmet with OLD rivets/chinstrap and Replacement; 2 of each should be adequate..for ESME to look over. If you have any technical reports or evaluations include them too.
- 2) All the UPC codes? Or the range?
- 3) DRAFT of poster and Joint Press Release, I can send examples via FAX;
- 4) Copies of letters sent to dealers, retailers and consumers...after calls or FAXes.

Call me with questions etc. 301-504-0608 x 1353 anytime

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*****
* User name:      jxd (35)                               Queue:  FS2/61
* File name:      Server: 613-17
* Directory:
* Description:    Microsoft Word - ~ME0A73.doc
*                April 21, 1999                          2:53pm
*****

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Blackburn Rhode Gear  
What's Hot

VistaLite

Bell Bicycle Helmets

Gearhead Guide



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[Expert Advice](#)



[Special Notices](#)

[Sponsorship & Questions](#)



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[What's New](#)

[Retail Outlets](#)

[Dealer Web Sites](#)

[Expert Advice](#)



*blackburn*

*Mode Gear*

*VistaLite*



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Author: James A. DeMarco at CPSC-HQ2

Date: 4/19/99 11:17 AM

Normal

Receipt Requested

TO: Dean\_McGuffee@bellsport.com at INTERNET-MAIL

Subject: RP99-150 Bell Helmet chinstrap rivet Recall

----- Message Contents

Dean,

Hope you got both my DRAFT report ltr and the original. I am going to need a few more things from you, although you did make a near complete e-mail report, I was certainly impressed. The following is still required but may not be too difficult to obtain:

- 1) samples of a helmet with OLD rivets/chinstrap and Replacement; 2 of each should be adequate..for ESME to look over. If you have any technical reports or evaluations include them too.
- 2) All the UPC codes? Or the range?
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- 4) Copies of letters sent to dealers, retailers and consumers...after calls or FAXes.

Call me with questions etc. 301-504-0608 x 1353 anytime

185

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* User name: jxd (45) Queue: FS2/613-17\_HP4000\_PQ \*  
\* File name: Server: 613-17\_HP4000\_PS \*  
\* Directory: \*  
\* Description: Message - Re: 4/18 - POLTROONS 'SPANKED' BY OLD \*  
\* April 19, 1999 11:25am \*  
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\*\*\* ACTIVITY REPORT \*\*\*  
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TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO.	9190
CONNECTION TEL	914083629848
CONNECTION ID	
START TIME	04/19 14:00
USAGE TIME	01'49
PAGES	4
RESULT	OK

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