



**UNITED STATES  
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20207**

**Memorandum**

Date: November 5, 2002

**TO :** Becky Bailey, Acting Director  
Office of Information and Public Affairs

**THROUGH:** Alan H. Schoem, Assistant Executive Director  
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**FROM :** Dollie N. Manley, Compliance Officer  
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**SUBJECT :** FY2002 Recalls and Corrective Actions Announced for Toys and Other Children's Products

During fiscal year 2002, the Office of Compliance announced 84 recalls and corrective actions involving toys, children’s products and bicycles. A list of product types that were recalled is provided.

The Office of Compliance announced a total of 21 recalls for products that violated mandatory safety standards. The breakdown for these products include 1 bicycle, 1 children’s product containing petroleum distillate, 1 crib, 1 costume, 1 bicycle helmet, 3 children’s products containing excessive lead levels, 2 rattles, 1 sleepwear garment, and 10 toys.

The Office of Compliance also announced a total of 63 corrective actions or recalls for toys, children’s products, and bicycles that presented hazards not addressed by mandatory standards. These products include 18 toys, 1 infant car seat and carrier combination, 1 child backpack carrier, 3 rattles and teething rings, 2 cribs, 1 piece of playground equipment, 3 types of recreational equipment, 5 articles of children’s clothing, 1 playpen, 6 swings, chairs, and booster seats, 3 toy chests, 7 bicycles or components/accessories, and 12 miscellaneous items.

**FY 2002 Recalls**

	Section 15 Recalls *	Regulated Product Recalls	# Units Recalled
# of Recalls Announced	63	21	
Toys and Other Children’s Products # Units Distributed and Subject to Recall	10,752,801	645,840	11,398,641
Bicycles # Units Distributed and Subject to Recall	271,800		271,800
Units Subject to Recall	11,024,601	645,840	11,670,441

\* Section 15 recalls include only consumer level recalls for which there was an announcement.

# **PART I**

## **REGULATED PRODUCTS RECALL SUMMARY**

A total of 21 products subject to the Commission's safety standards were voluntarily recalled or otherwise corrected.

### **Bicycles (1)**

The mini-bicycles do not have brakes, which is required by the federal standard for bicycles of this type. The standard also requires these bicycles have chain guards to prevent riders from getting fingers, toes and clothing caught in the gears. A total of 95,000 units distributed were recalled.

### **Chemical Substance (1)**

Petroleum distillate in the key chain's "potion bottle" can leak out, which, if ingested, poses a hazard. A total of 42,000 units were recalled, of which, 7,000 units were distributed.

### **Costume (1)**

One costume failed to meet the general wearing apparel standard for flammability. A total of 2,900 units distributed were recalled.

### **Cribs (1)**

The cribs have cut-outs in the end panels that allow young children to get their heads entrapped, resulting in strangulation. The cribs fail to meet the federal standard for full-size baby cribs. A total of 403 units distributed were recalled.

### **Bicycle Helmets (1)**

The helmets fail impact testing and labeling required under the federal standard for bicycle helmets. A total of 12,500 units distributed were recalled.

### **Lead-in-Paint (3)**

Two toys and a furniture set contain amounts of lead that exceed federal standards for children's products. A total of 78,864 units distributed were recalled.

### **Rattles (2)**

The rattle handle or an exposed noisemaker could become lodged in the throats of babies, posing a choking hazard. A total of 106,916 units distributed were recalled.

### **Sleepwear (1)**

A pajama set failed to meet federal children's sleepwear flammability standards, which require sleepwear to be flame-resistant or tight fitting. Failure to meet the flammability standards presents a risk of serious burn injuries to children. A total of 208 units distributed were recalled.

### **Toys (10)**

All of these toys failed to comply with the federal small parts standard and presented choking hazards to young children. A total of 307,049 units distributed were recalled.

**PART II**  
**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE**  
**FEDERAL HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES ACT**

**Toys (18)**

- 1 toy phone – antenna ball can break off the toy, posing a choking hazard
- 1 blast balls toy – when striking balls together, sparks can ignite, posing a burn hazard
- 1 lobster toy – antenna on toy can break, posing a choking hazard
- 2 stuffed toys – fabric-filled mobile phone attached to monkey can pose a choking hazard and, eyes and noses of 5” and 10” bears can come off, posing a choking hazard
- 1 buzzer toy – button covers can come off, posing a choking hazard
- 1 link toy – tips on links can break off, posing a choking hazard
- 1 maze toy – plastic tubes can break from wooden base, releasing beads, and posing choking hazard
- 2 projectile toys – foam tips on rockets can break off exposing sharp edges, causing face lacerations or eye injuries; and, plastic air intake chamber of air-powered planes can burst, throwing plastic pieces, posing a laceration, bruise and abrasion hazard
- 3 ride-on toys – wheel cap breakage on duck toy creates small parts, choking hazard; tip-over handlebar of scooter toy, facial injuries; and rubber wheels with rims on wagon may break and explode under pressure when inflated, parts of wheel and tire can strike and injure anyone nearby
- 1 baby float – leg holes in the seat can tear, causing children to unexpectedly fall into the water and possibly drown
- 1 toy track – tracks can break, presenting a cut or pinch hazard and exposed small parts pose choking hazard
- 2 steering wheels – when a child pulls the horn from wheel, a small part inside poses choking hazard; and, wheel can break away from base, small parts pose a choking hazard
- 1 figurine – paint on some figurines contain excess levels of lead, if ingested over time, the lead from paint may present a lead poisoning hazard

At least 4,873,560 units distributed were recalled.

**Infant Car Seat and Carrier Combination and Child Backpack Carrier (2)**

- 1 car seat/carrier combination – when used as a carrier, the plastic handle can unexpectedly release from the carrying position, causing an unrestrained infant to fall to the ground and suffer injuries
- 1 child backpack carrier – a child could fall from a carrier when the seat restraint strap is not doubled-back through the slider if the harness is not used

At least 26,135 units distributed were recalled.

**Rattles and Teething Rings (3)**

- 1 rattle/teething ring combination – breakage can cause small beads to fall out, presenting a choking hazard
- 1 sterling teething ring – area where ring is soldered together contains flux, which can irritate the skin or mouth
- 1 rattle – eyes on rattle can detach posing a choking hazard

At least 459,800 units distributed were recalled

## **Cribs (2)**

- 1 folding wood crib – headboard can separate from the corner post, head and neck entrapment in the corner space between the post and mattress
- 1 full-size crib – slats can loosen and detach from the drop side rail, creating a large opening between the slats where a child’s head or neck could become entrapped

At least 2,990 units distributed were recalled.

**Playground Equipment (1)** buckle bridges – the platform edge, where the bridges are attached, can crack and the bridge could detach from the platform resulting in injuries

At least 46 units distributed were recalled.

## **Recreational Equipment (3)**

- 2 basketball hoops – when exposed, a sharp protruding bolt on the player’s side of pole can cause serious leg or body lacerations
- 1 fun-kart type go-kart – fuel from the engine can spill out if the fun-kart overturns posing serious fire and burn hazards

At least 1,930,000 units distributed were recalled.

## **Children’s Clothing (5)**

- 1 girls’ shoes – buckles on shoes can break posing a choking hazard
- 1 girls’ vests and jackets – zipper pull and metal ring can detach posing a choking hazard
- 1 girls’ newborn jumpsuits and top and bottom sets – fabric, heat-sealed flowers on the front of the garments can detach after washing posing a choking hazard
- 1 girls’ capri pant and shirt sets – buttons in the center of the embroidered flowers on the shirt can detach posing a choking hazard
- 1 girls’ short sets – buttons on the garment are sewn too loosely posing a potential choking hazard

At least 146,100 units distributed were recalled.

**Playpens (1)** collapse or entrapment hazards when plastic tabs that lock rails into corners break or loosen over time

At least 102,000 units distributed were recalled.

## **Swings, Chairs, and Booster Seats (6)**

- 1 booster seat – fall injuries can occur when the top half of the seat inserts separate
- 1 bean bag chair – suffocation and strangulation hazards presented when children inhale small polystyrene beads
- 2 folding chairs – collapsing chairs pose crush, cut and amputation hazards to fingers or toes
- 2 swings – falls caused by buckle breakage and shoulder restraint straps that pull out of the back of the seat; and, seat and baby flip forward because of insecure attachment of seat

At least 1,949,100 units distributed were recalled.

**Toy Chests (3)** inadequate lid support hinges causes lids to fall unexpectedly, posing entrapment and strangulation hazards; or pinched, crushed and lacerated fingers because of spaces between the lid and toy chests

At least 8,400 units distributed were recalled.

### **Miscellaneous (12)**

- 1 gate – mounting hardware can break or crack unlatching gate, and creating small parts that pose a choking hazard
- 1 lamp – lamp bulbs can become hot, risk of burn injuries and risk of fire if the bulb comes with combustible material
- 1 4-drawer dresser – tip over occurs during use, posing a serious injury hazard
- 1 gel candle kit – fire hazard can occur, when burned, the gel candle can melt the plastic candleholders in kit
- 1 changing table – when closing front doors, finger crushing or pinching can occur
- 1 soap making kit – soap may get too hot when heated in microwave oven and leak, burn hazard
- 1 suction cup – if improperly attached, suction cups on snack and activity trays, can detach, posing a choking hazard
- 2 books – snap securing book detaches, posing a choking hazard; and plastic lamination on board book may peel off, choking hazard
- 1 cotton candy machine – motors on machines overheat presenting a risk of burn
- 1 aerosol can containing spray foam – pressurized cans left in hot automobile can forcefully break apart causing injury
- 1 key chain – miniature Coca-Cola bottle attached to blush bear can come off posing a choking hazard

At least 1,254,670 units distributed were recalled.

### **Bicycles or Components/Accessories (7)**

- 4 forks can loosen or break apart during use, causing riders to lose control and fall
- 1 crankset, bottom bracket spindle inside crankset can break, causing rider to lose control and crash
- 1 hitch causes the tandem accessories to become unstable, posing a risk of injury
- 1 crank arm length does not allow sufficient space between the rider's foot and the front wheel when the front wheel is turned backwards, causing the rider's foot to come in contact with the front wheel, rider loses control, fall and possibly suffer serious injury

At least 271,800 units distributed were recalled.