



FEDERATION OF AMERICAN CONSUMERS AND TRAVELERS

- NEWS RELEASE -

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Keeping Up With Product Recalls

EDWARDSVILLE, IL, April 11, 2011 - Literally thousands of products are recalled every year because they represent some sort of a hazard to the public. Vicki Rolens, managing director of the Federation of American Consumers and Travelers (FACT) says, "The problem for consumers is knowing when a product has been recalled, whether they themselves are in danger, and what they should do if they have purchased a recalled item."

Rolens adds: "Luckily, there are easy-to-access, up-to-date listings of all the latest recalls which the consumer can find on the Internet."

One source is www.recallowl.com, which lists recalls by category: child products and toys, household products, outdoor products, specialty products, food, drug and medical, and vehicles.

Another is the U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) Web site (www.cpsc.gov). The CPSC is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from thousands of types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. According to the CPSC, its work to ensure the safety of consumer products -- such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals -- contributed significantly to a 30 percent decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.

The U. S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has its own Internet listing of recalls (www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/default.htm). This site is devoted to recalled food, drugs, animal health products, biologics and medical devices.

Six federal agencies have combined to create yet another Web site (www.recalls.gov) dealing with the issue. There's a mobile application enabling the consumer to type the name of a product being considered into the phone and to learn immediately whether that product has been recalled. The site lets visitors see photos of recalled products and tells what to do with recalled items.

This news release has been issued by the Federation of American Consumers and Travelers (FACT), a consumer organization formed under the not-for-profit corporation laws of the District of Columbia in 1984. FACT serves more than 1 million consumers nationwide. Additional information on FACT may be found in the Encyclopedia of Associations, and by visiting the association's Web site (www.usafact.org). Informative, unbiased news bulletins are regularly disseminated by FACT to help its members remain current on matters which might seriously impact their lives. The association does not offer support to -- and does not receive support from -- any political party or movement. In addition to publishing consumer-related reports, the association provides more than 40 benefits for its members, ranging from medical insurance and dental discounts to prescription drug savings and scholarships. FACT's administrative office is located at 318 Hillsboro Avenue, Edwardsville, IL 62025

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