Subject: New ICPHSO–PSL Collaboration: Product Safety News and Information

Dear ICPHSO Members and Friends,

ICPHSO is pleased to announce a new **six-month pilot collaboration with Product Safety Letter (PSL)**, beginning September 2026

Product Safety Letter is an independent weekly publication for executives and professionals concerned with consumer product safety. PSL provides timely coverage of the latest product safety developments, including news and regulatory activity from the **U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), European Union, and other product safety authorities around the world.**

As part of this pilot collaboration:

- **Issues 1 and 2 (September and October):** Everyone on the ICPHSO mailing list, **members and non-members**, will receive a PSL edition. The two editions will be selected jointly by ICPHSO and PSL.
- **Following those first two editions:** ICPHSO **members** will receive four additional selected PSL editions during the remainder of the six-month pilot.
- **Members interested in full access:** During the pilot, PSL will offer ICPHSO members a **discounted rate on a full PSL subscription**, including new subscriptions and renewals at a discounted rate available here.

We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to see firsthand the type of timely product safety information PSL provides. If you find the coverage valuable, ICPHSO members can take advantage of the special discounted subscription rate for continued full access.

We look forward to launching this pilot collaboration and bringing another valuable source of product safety information to the ICPHSO community.

PRODUCT SAFETY LETTER

An independent weekly for executives concerned with consumer product regulations, legislation and standards. Founded in 1972.

www.productsafetyletter.com

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In This Issue

Revoked Rules: CPSC stops two repeals ..... **Page 1**

Batteries: Hearing aids are source of annoyance ... **Page 1**

Sports Helmets: EC assessment is mixed ..... **Page 1**

ICPHSO: Session theme was international baseline.. **Page 1**

Car Restraints: NHTSA looks child deaths ..... **Page 1**

Standards: CPSC works on numerous issues ..... **Page 2**

Legacy Rules on Bouncers & Activity Centers Will Not Be Revoked for Now

CPSC September 17 withdrew its direct final rule that would have revoked decades-old requirements for bouncer seats and stationary activity centers. The reason was a significant adverse comment, the trigger for stopping such direct rules. The agency's *Federal Register* notice (bit.ly/3TA3MoE) explained, "The Commission will consider the significant adverse comment and assess the appropriate manner in which to proceed in this matter."

The docket for the direct final rule (bit.ly/4h0DDbt) had two comments, one supportive. The other, from an unnamed person with unidentified affiliation, included:

> "Section 104 does not grant the Commission unbridled authority to quietly eliminate underlying baseline hazard prohibitions in 16 CFR Part 1500 via direct final action when doing so leaves hybrid durable products with less protection than the historical status quo."
>
> "Furthermore, by revoking Part 1500 provisions without establishing a synchronized transition mechanism for Children's Product Certificates (CPCs) and third-party laboratory testing protocols, the CPSC creates immediate compliance chaos for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) import surveillance, shifting unquantified legal and financial risks onto small domestic importers without performing a required economic review under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. § 605) or OMB Circular A-4."

The two rules are 1971 pre-CPSC relics of FDA jurisdiction over such products. CPSC had said (*PSL*, 7/27/26) that they were overtaken by other rules that incorporate voluntary standards under the Section 104 system. The old rules at 16 CFR 1500.18(a)(6) address hazards like X-shape frame joints, scissoring/shearing/pinching hazards, exposed coils, holes that allow insertion of body parts, and collapse. The old rules at 16 CFR 1500.86(a)(4) address similar hazards as well as company identification and testing/inspection record retention. The newer Section 104 rules are at 16 CFR 1229 and 16 CFR 1238.

Commenters Voice Frustration over Effects of Reese's Law on Hearing Aids

CPSC got numerous comments urging packaging leniency with zinc-air batteries for hearing aids. The input (bit.ly/4hdeUQb) questioned the hazardousness of this type of battery and

see **Batteries**, p. 6

Sports Helmets Show Mixed Compliance Results in EU

The EC September 15 reported mixed results from testing of sports helmets. Among the findings (bit.ly/4Aeehyl) was that 70% of tested models had "expected" levels of durability,

see **Helmets**, p. 3

ICPHSO International Symposium: Advancing a Global Baseline

Rod Freeman and Rebecca Halbach, Cooley LLP

The International Consumer Product Health and Safety Organization (ICPHSO) held its 2026 International Symposium in Brussels on September 9-10, in conjunction with the

see **ICPHSO**, p. 4

NHTSA Finds About 2-in-5 Kids Lacked Restraints in Road Deaths

There was a 39% unrestrained percentage in 2024 among children killed in road accidents and for whom restraint use was known. The age range for the recent data from the National

see **Restraints**, p. 3

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Standard Roundup: CO, Jewelry, Lighters, More

Recent CPSC activity on voluntary standards addressed carbon monoxide, children's jewelry, flameless lighters, flammable refrigerants, indoor play structures, LP gas containers, robots, solid fuel heating, soccer goals, storage furniture, torch/lamp fuel devices, and torch lighters.

- **Carbon Monoxide**: The UL 2075 panel's work towards low-level detectors included whether silencing features should be allowed and at what CO level as well as a potential limit on multiple silencing. Federal occupational exposure levels might inform activation triggers. Sensor drift could be a challenge at low levels (bit.ly/3Vd6LUn). Meanwhile, UL 2034/CSA 6.19 alarm harmonization activity focused on procedural issues. UL will complete draft language for review at a future meeting, which has not yet been scheduled (bit.ly/470NVlZ).
- **Children's Jewelry**: ASTM F15.24 reviewed proposed F2923 updates, including on references, definitions, and scope. More review will occur at a future meeting.
- **Flameless Lighters**: Need for child-resistant features got debate in ASTM F15.02 with CPSC staff urging that the in-development standard have a section reserved for future work on the topic (bit.ly/3UVGLgd). Others disagreed with doing that. Single- vs multiple-step activation also got attention with CPSC staff urging the latter.
- **Flammable Refrigerants**: Shipping requirements and leak tests for A-3 refrigerants were deferred for a future edition of UL 60335-2-40. CANENA participants will hear about UL 1563 work on heat pumps, likely in late September (bit.ly/4A7Z8i2). Another CANENA session (bit.ly/4AfRiCZ) targeted labeling, including a proposal to use "Danger, risk of fire or explosion" with A-3 and "Warning fire risk" with A2L.
- **Indoor Play Structures**: Flammability considerations in building codes was the focus of the Vision 20-20 strategy 5 work group. CPSC staff will be presenting at a future International Code Council meeting (bit.ly/4cR2Gvg).
- **LP Gas Containers**: A second draft report on proposed NFPA 58 updates will be prepared and posted on the organization's website. It will incorporate recent discussion of public input (bit.ly/4rfhSbf).
- **Robots**: A meeting between Robostrategy and Acting Chairman Peter Feldman (bit.ly/4htKtq1) focused on the lack of safety standards for end-product humanoid designs. The company offered to aid in any development.
- **Solid Fuel Heating**: A working group will evaluate differences between UL 127 and CPSC's 16 CFR 1406. The group's formation a response to an agency request.
- **Soccer Goals**: CPSC staff will aid ASTM F15.43 terminology work on a foam-crush test related to cranial impact. Other activity involved review of a tipover report.
- **Storage Furniture**: The BIFMA X5.6 committee is focused on extendible elements like bins. Topic include full extension and out stops (bit.ly/4712zK4).
- **Torch/Lamp Fuel Devices**: Review of negatives/comments on labeling proposals will occur after the ASTM F15.72 chairman creates a summary (bit.ly/4j5mMpg).
- **Torch Lighters**: ASTM F15.02 reviewed a CPSC in depth investigation report of a bathroom fire linked to a torch lighter left lit and on its side. CPSC staffers plan to provide more IDIs after redactions (bit.ly/4h7WTCz).

CPSC-Administered Recalls

Product	Date[1]	Company	Reason	Units[2]	Incidents Reported	Sold	Price	Remedy/Action
Activity Boards: Lights & Sounds Fire Truck	9/17/26	Melissa & Doug	Small parts can detach	84,000	26 with one cut	Jul 2025-Aug 2026	$30	Refunds or replacements
Activity Boards: Toddler Busy Board Montessori	9/17/26	Esjay US	Small parts can detach	276,000	None	Mar 2023-Jul 2026	$18-$30	Replacement pages
Air Conditioners: Kühl Q, Kühl S multiple model numbers, window styles	9/17/26	Friedrich Air Conditioning	Control board can fail	2,000	Two ignited motors but no injuries	Jan 2026-Aug 2026	$1,300-$2,000	Refunds or replacements
Bike Helmets: Basecamp HT-10	9/17/16	Tongyang Cycling	Impact, stability, certification violations	315	None	Jul 2024-Jul 2026	$34	Refunds
Electric Grills: Bistro Pro multiple model numbers	9/17/26	Char-Broil	Grounding wire can disconnect	10,605 (C:342)	None	Oct 2025-Jun 2026	$150-$250	Repair kits
Heated Blankets/Heating Pads: JKMAX-002, -7284B, -6284B, -10090B, -8490B, -6284B	9/17/26	JKMAX	Heating element can overheat	195,000	577 thermal events with 53 burn injuries	Sep 2022-Jul 2026	(U)	Refunds
Magnetic Toys: Jerify Magnetic Humanoid Toy Sets X003ADA3TD	9/17/26	Colerinsec	Small, powerful magnets can detach	38,507	Two hospitalizations	Oct 2022-May 2026	$21	Refunds
Mattresses: BedsPick SME004, AMG005197_12_Q_GLT	9/17/26	Regfear	Flammability noncompliance	818	None	Feb 2025-May 2026	$140-$200	Refunds
Pool Heaters: HDFS400 Universal-HC	9/17/26	Hayward Industries	High carbon monoxide production	4,600	None	Mar 2026-Jul 2026	$5,600	Repairs
Pressure Washers: KLC-BULL135C	9/17/26	Lanchez	No GFCI, cord too short	329	One but no injuries	Feb 2026-Jun 2026	$88-$266	Refunds
Saunas: Multiple Finnleo, Helo, Polar, Radiant Health, Tylo models	9/17/26	Sauna360	Infrared panels can short circuit	41,580 (C:6,758)	67 thermal events but no injuries	May 2013-July 2026	$6,000-$13,000	Repairs
Saunas: Tylö Halmstad and Kiruna Hybrid	9/17/26 (10/23/25)	Sauna360	Benches can collapse; prior repair ineffective	6,000	77 additional, seven prior	Jul 2024-Jul 2026	$6,000-$12,000	New repair
Squeeze Toys: Rainbow Mystery Squishy Bun	9/17/26	Toyworld168	Water beads violation	276	None	Jun 2026-Jul 2026	$3	Refunds
Teething Toys: Pull & Chew Montessori multiple SKUs	9/17/26	Shein	Strings too long and thin	644	None	Dec 2025-Apr 2026	$10	Refunds

[1] Dates in parentheses are original dates for reannouncements. [2] Numbers in parentheses are units in joint recalls with Health Canada (C) and/or Mexico's Profeco (M). (U) = unspecified

Helmets from page 1

penetration resistance, retention system performance, and shock absorption. Failures were two ski helmets that did not pass shock absorption testing and 19 bike helmets that had one or more faults.

Meanwhile about 65% failed marking and documentation requirements for personal protective equipment. The EC said the review areas showed only 30% of models complied with everything in both sets of requirements.

Work was by authorities in Belgium, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Malta, Netherlands, and Sweden. Reviewed were 70 bike/skate/skateboard helmets and 30 ski/snowboard helmets. About 84% were sold online.

A second study (bit.ly/4yIiNUc) reported simultaneously found that 71% of 46 workplace helmets met performance requirements for chinstrap anchors, flame resistance, label durability, penetration resistance, and shock absorption.

Restraints from page 1

Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) was 14 years or younger. The numbers included 677 deaths in passenger vehicles with restraint status known for 585 and 299 unrestrained. Overall, 1,032 in the age range died, including 172 pedestrians and 56 cyclists. Other data included:

- **Fatal Crash Survival**: There were 4,146 children who survived a crash that killed someone else. Restraint use was known for 3,843 with 480 unrestrained.
- **Fatal Crash Involvement**: Combined, those who died and survived totaled 4,428. Restraint use was known for 4,428 with 709 unrestrained.
- **Restraint Types**: Among the 353 who died known to have been in restraints, 176 were in child seats: 53 in forward-facing, 32 in boosters, 30 in rear facing, and 61 in unknown types. These victims mostly were at the lower end of the age range.

Non-U.S. Recalls

Country	Product	Date	Company	Reason	Incidents Reported	Units	Sold	Remedy/Action
Australia	**Contact Lenses**: White for cosplay sb2408056243278800	9/15/26	Shein	Bacteria contamination	(U)	(U)	Aug 2024-Aug 2026	Refunds
	Onesies: Merino Essentials NB2206, NB22613	9/15/26	Nature Baby	Snaps can detach	(U)	(U)	Feb 2026-Sep 2026	Refunds
	Pull String Toys: B0FFMB72FS	9/15/26	Shenzhen Qinbeier Trading	Small parts can detach, long strings	(U)	(U)	Jul 2025-Jul 2026	Refunds
	Spray Guns: Rota Cota Trade Pro 3 HB133	9/15/26	DuluxGroup	Unintentional discharge	(U)	(U)	Jan 2026-Aug 2026	Replacements
	Thermal Bottles: Wonderland Unicorn KK4761, Dino KK4760	9/17/26	Kaisercraft	Button clip cover can detach	(U)	(U)	June 2026-Sep 2026	Refunds
Canada	**Climbing Gear**: Simond Alpinism quickdraws 8589547, 8589548	9/11/26	Decathlon	Carabiner can break	None	1,078	Jan 2022-Jul 2026	Refunds
	Electric Grills: Bistro Pro multiple model numbers	9/17/26	Char-Broil	Grounding wire can disconnect	None	342	Oct 2025-Jun 2025	Repair kits
	Power Stations: Yeti 3000X	9/11/26	Goal Zero	Circuit board can overheat	None	509	May 2020-Aug 2025	Firmware update
	Saunas: Multiple Finnleo, Helo, Polar, Radiant Health, Tylo models	9/17/26	Sauna360	Infrared panels can short circuit	Five in Canada but no injuries	6,758	Jan 2013-Aug 2026	Repairs
	Teething Toys: Pull & Chew Montessori multiple SKUs	9/17/26	Shein	Strings too long and thin	None	233	Apr 2024-Jun 2026	Refunds
New Zealand	**Amplifiers**: Ibanez Promethian P20	9/11/26	Musicworks	Overheating	(U)	(U)	Jan 2025-Aug 2026	Refunds or exchanges
	Board Books: Groovy Baby I Spy a Fly	9/10/26	Make Believe Ideas	Small parts can detach	(U)	(U)	Mar 2025-Aug 2026	Refunds
	Car Seats: B-Safe E1A728Y, E1C732C, E1C749S	9/11/26	Britax	Handle can detach	(U)	(U)	Aug 2020-Mar 2022	Repair kits
	Contact Lenses: White for cosplay sb2408056243278800	9/11/26	Shein	Bacteria contamination	(U)	(U)	Aug 2024-Aug 2026	Refunds
	Extension Cords: Torpedo7 9420078951911	9/14/26	T7 Retail	Reversed wiring	(U)	(U)	Jan 2025-Jul 2026	Refunds
	Gas Regulators: RV-One HDJYF1001 LPG	9/10/26	Regent RV	Diaphragm can fail	(U)	(U)	May 2024-Jan 2026	Replacements
	Hair Accessories: Gingham Flower 60319534	9/11/26	Country Road	Small parts can detach	(U)	(U)	Jul 2026-Aug 2026	Refunds
	Hot Water Bottles: Multiple prints and codes	9/11/26	Bargain Chemist	Leaking and rupturing	(U)	(U)	Dec 2023-Aug 2025	Refunds
	Onesies: Merino Essentials NB2206, NB22613	9/11/26	Nature Baby	Snaps can detach	(U)	(U)	Mar 2026-Sep 2026	Refunds
	Pull String Toys: Baby Sensory Activity Toys multiple codes	9/10/26	Shein	Size violations	(U)	(U)	Jan 2024-Jul 2026	Refunds
United Kingdom	**Bathrobes**: Alanis 7315648, GOL023	9/15/26	La Redoute	No flammability label	(U)	(U)	(U)	Contact company
	Board Books: Groovy Baby I Spy a Fly	9/15/26	Make Believe Ideas	Small parts can detach	(U)	(U)	(U)	Refunds
	Ceiling Speaker Fire Hoods: FH10, FH30:	9/16/26	Cambridge Audio	Fire can pass through ceiling opening	(U)	(U)	(U)	Vouchers
	Cornhole Sets: 233254	9/16/26	Smyths Toys	Asbestos in beanbag sand	(U)	(U)	(U)	Refunds
	Electrical Connectors: Dial l5052931116324, 5052931116331	9/15/26	Diall	Incorrect wiring	(U)	(U)	Mar 2025-Aug 2026	Refunds
	Web Cams: FocusRay AONXV-001-WR	9/15/26	AoharuNEXT	Circuit board can detach	(U)	(U)	Aug 2026	Refunds

(U) = Unspecified in the notice.

ICPHSO from page 1

European Commission's International Product Safety Week. Nearly 400 delegates attended, representing some 50 countries. A consistent thread ran through every session: the need to build a credible and enforceable global baseline for product safety, keeping pace with e-commerce, artificial intelligence, and rapidly shifting regulatory landscapes.

Regulator Updates

Isabelle Pérignon, Director for Consumer Policy at the European Commission, opened the event by highlighting the European Commission's ambition to lead on product safety and find global solutions to challenges from e-commerce and new technology.

The first Global Regulator Session featured speakers from the European Commission, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), the UK Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) and Health Canada, who discussed legislative reform, AI and digital tools, bilateral collaboration, and how industry can support regulators. The complexities created by the entry of new types of products and online platforms were raised as two of the key challenges faced by regulators over the past three years. All four speakers provided examples of how their organizations are cautiously exploring AI tools to support their work.

In a second global regulator session, Isidor Garcia Sanchez, Director at the Catalan Consumer Agency and Valnei Smarcaro da Cunha, Head of Inspection Division at the Brazilian National Institute of Metrology, Standardization and Industrial Quality (InMetro) also discussed current challenges and opportunities of digitalization and AI, including digital labelling and scaling inspections. This panel also echoed the importance of cooperation with other regulators.

Martijn Duinkerke, Senior Inspector Product Safety, Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA), in a separate rapid-fire session introduced the audience to the NVWA's self-assessment tool for companies allowing them to verify their internal processes to ensure product safety processes are compliant with the EU

see **Regulators**, p. 5

BRIEFS

Infant Walkers: CPSC September 17 said to stop using Pvauert CT02 walkers that fit through standard doorways and to not stop at stair tops. CPSC knows of six incidents with three head injuries. Chinese retailer Dongguanshilingyuanguojimaoyiyouxiangongsi (dba Pvauert) has not agreed to recall. About 5,451 sold on Amazon and possibly elsewhere for $65 in Oct 2025-Jun 2026.

Pool Drain Covers: CPSC September 17 said to stop using Lanyitongke SP1030-Acovers that lack required markings and instructions. No incidents are reported. Chinese seller Lanyitongke has not responded to a recall request. About 400 sold in Apr-Jun 2026 for $9 on Amazon and possibly elsewhere.

Pool Grants: S.3467 to reauthorize the Virginia Graeme Baker pool law would set the available funds for education awards at $2.5 million annually through FY2030. The 2025 measure passed out of the Commerce Committee September 16. Sponsor Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) noted (bit.ly/4z4tuAX). that other updates would include tribal eligibility and a dedicated CPSC staffer. The co-sponsor is Sen. John Curtis (R-Utah).

EU Safety Gate (RAPEX) Notices Issued September 11
UK Product Safety Database Notices Issued September 15

Country	Product* [number of notices]	Reason	Action/Measure
Austria	**Hearing Protection**: Decibel Defense Professional	No conformity assessment	Voluntary online delisting
France	**Activity Toys**: One Two Fun Ma Poule Tap Tap	Small parts can detach	Voluntary withdrawal/recall
	Bath Toys: (UB) Robot Fish L25-01	Accessible button batteries	Voluntary online delisting
	Projectors: (UB) D-501E LED	Accessible live parts	Voluntary recall/delisting
	Smart Watches: Tynggko S5	Lead level in metal	Voluntary online delisting
	Teething Toys: Vicloon 2933160	Small parts can detach	Voluntary online delisting
Germany	**Filter Masks**: CRD Light YY0525	Insufficient filtration	Voluntary withdrawal/recall
	Swim Seats: San Li Summer Sea gh13	Toy like appearance	Voluntary online delisting
	Tattoo Ink: PhiAcademy Aqua Collecton	Formaldehyde level	Use prohibition
Hungary	**Flashlights**: BF JY-1125	Overheating	Mandatory withdrawal
	USB Chargers: (UB) (UM) black, three-port	Accessible parts can become live	Mandatory withdrawal/recall
	USB Chargers: (UB) EP-TA20EWE GSM0514B	Accessible parts can become live	Mandatory withdrawal/recall
	USB Chargers: (UB) GSM0514A	Accessible parts can become live	Mandatory withdrawal/recall
	USB Chargers: (UB) Smart Charger GQ-211	Ports can become live	Ban on marketing
	USB Chargers: Blackbird A1400 BH08	Accessible parts can become live	Mandatory withdrawal/recall
Ireland	**Necklaces**: (UB) cherry charm ZY250B12TB232	Cadmium level. nickel release	Voluntary online delisting
	Necklaces: (UB) green flower pendant	Nickel release rate	Voluntary recall
Lithuania	**Chairs**: Seven C-11	Inadequate load resistance	Mandatory withdrawal
	Chairs: Varberg 3725123/88210001	Inadequate load resistance	Mandatory withdrawal/recall
	Musical Toys: (UB) Azbukvarik 2904 pyramid	Small parts can detach	Mandatory withdrawal
	Protective Gloves: (UB) (UM) black and orange	No conformity assessment	Voluntary online delisting
	Protective Gloves: (UB) (UM) green	No conformity assessment	Voluntary online delisting
Northern Ireland	**Dart Boards**: SportBob 8201 BB01 inflatable	Pump can overheat	Import rejection
	E-Bikes: (UB) JiYiN / JY-546200, M60	Inadequate fuse	Import rejection
	E-Bikes: Allegro M7 FY006A	No conformity assessment	Import rejection
	Lawn Trimmers: Feytory HGFS210100	Accessible live parts	Import rejection
	Pagers: Aleenfoon AF-HJ	Noncompliant plug dimensions	Import rejection/delisting
	Play Mats: Brilliant Intelligent AW2514810004-01	Protruding parts	Import rejection
	Water Beads: Leeche 1-21824487	Expands in liquid	Voluntary online delisting
Poland	**Inflatable Toys**: Sinsay Jumping Giraffe	DIBP level	Voluntary withdrawal/recall
Sweden	**E-Cigarettes**: Dripped Go Flow Double Bubblegum	Not child resistant	Ban on marketing
United Kingdom	**Activity Boards**: (UB) A-001, A-002	Small parts can detach	Import rejection
	Buoyancy Aids: Garvee AGJ003	Wrong classification	Import rejection
	Coffee Tables: Bera Design Zen extendable	Unexpected spring release	Online delisting
	Dresses: Aoowu Mermaid Princess 4351929	Wig flammability	Import rejection
	E-Bikes: Urlife T2	No conformity assessment	Import rejection
	EV Chargers: Romada KQ02	Metal can become live	Import rejection
	Laptop Chargers: GEU PA-45W	Noncompliant plug dimensions	Import rejection
	Squeeze Toys: (UB) Cheese Vent	No conformity evidence	Import rejection
	Squeeze Toys: (UB) Salted Butter	No conformity evidence	Import rejection
	Squeeze Toys: (UB) Squish! Gummy Bear	No conformity evidence	Import rejection
	Squeeze Toys: (UB) Steam Bunz Dim Sum	No conformity evidence	Import rejection
	Squeeze Toys: Needoh Splash Balls	No conformity evidence	Import rejection
	Stage Lights: Betopper LCX200	Noncompliant fuse	Import rejection
	Stage Lights: Betopper LF2405	Noncompliant fuse	Import rejection
	Weight Collars: Fittle Box	Barbell grip can fail	Recall

* (UB) = unspecified brand; (UM) = unspecified model, code, etc.

Regulators from page 4

General Product Safety Regulation (GPSR).

UN Principles

A dedicated session on the UN Principles for Consumer Product Safety, featuring UNCTAD and the European Commission, reinforced international regulatory cooperation. The key message was that countries should not wait for a perfect system. A general safety requirement is fundamental, and countries can build from there.

A breakout on Latin America identified gaps in the compliance and enforcement mechanisms of the UN Principles and discussed ICPHSO possibly leading efforts to provide a dispute resolution space to address consumer issues.

A plenary session featuring Elliot F. Kaye – former chairman of the CPSC and now a partner at Cooley – alongside Pinuccia Contino, Deputy Director Equality and Non-Discrimination & Head of Unit Gender Equality, European Commission, linked the UN Principles for Consumer Product Safety to accessible and safe products.

Collaboration in Action

"Stopping the Burn but Continuing to Heat Things Up" examined two case studies of how collaboration continues to improve product safety: button batteries and e-bikes. On e-bikes, OPSS described an evidence-led approach including drafting statutory battery guidelines, working with investigators and academia, and sponsoring the British Standards Institution (BSI) to draft a fast-track standard. The key message: collaboration delivers the best outcomes.

A session on "Velocity, Volume, Divergence: The New Geometry of Product Safety in an Age of Global Scale" had the panel, including Kristyna Deiberova – Consumer Product Safety Unit, Directorate General for Justice and Consumers at the European Commission and Cameron Crowley, Senior Legal Counsel at Temu, discuss how businesses and legislators can work together to ensure their systems for compliance are robust with varying requirements across jurisdictions, using the GPSR as the 'gold standard' for compliance, particularly for online marketplaces.

"Online Marketplaces: Enabling e-Commerce Sellers to Comply with EPR" explored how extended producer responsibility (EPR) evolved from a reporting and taxation scheme into a critical market-access requirement, with online marketplaces now serving a dual role as gatekeepers verifying seller registrations and, in the absence of EPR harmonisation across EU Member States, as facilitators introducing a degree of consistency across waste-stream taxonomies and reporting methodologies.

AI, Market Surveillance, Compliance, and Risk

"Using AI Tools to Detect Unsafe Products Online: Emerging Approaches for Market Surveillance and Recall Effectiveness" featured speakers from the European Commission, Amazon, Google, and Virginia Tech. Research showed that recalled products are routinely reposted under new categories and brand names. Amazon emphasized proactive seller verification and AI-powered automation for high-risk products. The panel agreed that data rather than the tools themselves remains the critical bottleneck, and that digital product passports need to be interoperable across regions.

"Fixing Product Safety Before It Becomes a Compliance Problem: The Voice of Suppliers" brought together representatives from Zippo, Mattel, and Oeko-TEX to discuss key challenges suppliers face in achieving product integrity and evidencing compliance in a world of ever-increasing regulatory complexity, noting that a product is only as safe as its weakest component and that AI and simulation software are now significantly improving speed and accuracy of labelling checks and proof-of-concept testing.

Enforcement, Liability, and Digital Product Passport

"From Compliance to Claims: Product Safety, Enforcement and Liability Across the EU and US" considered the potential for greater information sharing through the EU's Digital Product Passport and the US e-Filing system. The panel also discussed informal cooperation such as the operation of shared product pools across borders by online marketplaces which can often reach consumers faster than national regulators. It also addressed what the product liability landscape can teach businesses preparing for the revised EU Product Liability Directive, with panelists expressing hope that greater transparency and clearer responsibilities across the value chain will foster a "no blame culture" focused on consumer safety.

"Advancing the Baseline: What Does Good Enforcement Really Look Like?" moderated by Cooley associate Carol Holley and featuring OPSS Deputy Chief Executive Sarah Smith also emphasized that open dialogue between industry and regulators is key. Sarah Smith shared insights into how OPSS is using all its tools to encourage businesses to take proactive steps for product safety compliance at the same time as undertaking a major reform of UK enforcement rules in partnership with stakeholders.

See **Emerging**, p. 6

UL Proposals

Subject	Date	Standard	Related to	Contact
Building Material	9/11/26	UL 263, *Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials*	Ceiling dampers, more	Dakota.Sabotka@ul.org
Cables	9/11/26	UL 719, *Nonmetallic-Sheathed Cables*	Copper and copper-clad aluminum	Hilal.ElMisilmani@ul.org
Conduit	9/11/26	UL 651, *Schedule 40, 80, Type EB and A Rigid PVC Conduit and Fittings*	Tensile test, more	Celine.Eid@ul.org
Electronics	9/11/26	UL 746S, *Evaluation of Sustainable Polymeric Materials for use in Electrical Equipment*	Mechanically-recycled material	Derrick.L.Martin@ul.org
Emergency Lighting	9/11/26	UL 924, *Emergency Lighting and Power Equipment*	Circuit performance	Julio.Morales@ul.org
IT Connectors	9/16/26	UL 1977, *Component Connectors for Use in Data, Signal, Control and Power Applications*	Single/multi-pole insulated bus bar connectors	Hannah.Harrison@ul.org
Plastics	9/11/26	UL 746B, *Polymeric Materials - Long Term Property Evaluations*	Test samples	Derrick.L.Martin@ul.org
Power Packs	9/11/26	UL 2743, *Portable Power Packs*	Drop tests, more	Madison.Lee@ul.org

Emerging from page 5

Emerging Risks Software, AI and Microplastics

The breakout session "Social Media/Gaming, Behavioral Patterns, and Risk Assessment: The Manufacturer's Obligations Under the New EU Product Liability Directive" examined how the revised EU Product Liability Directive and the GPSR apply to software-driven products, noting the expanded "product" definition now captures standalone software and that recoverable damages extend to psychological harm. The panel stressed that risk assessments must evaluate features in context.

"Regulatory Uncertainty? No Excuse: Proactive Product Safety Strategies for a Borderless Global Marketplace" used the example of an AI-enabled teddy bear to illustrate how manufacturers must navigate products reaching the market before legislation exists. The panel advised that even where no harmonised standard applies, a safety assessment remains necessary, and under the EU GPSR there is a duty to demonstrate that a product is safe.

A rapid-fire session called for microplastics to be firmly on the product safety agenda, not regarded purely as an environmental issue. Microplastics are in clothes, baby products, cosmetics, and toys, with infants among the most exposed, but scientific evidence remains contradictory, and methodologies are not standardized across jurisdictions.

Mentorship and Community

ICPHSO continues to be committed to mentoring the next generation of product safety professionals. The students who participated as mentees shared reflections from the International Product Safety Week Student Mentorship Program.

Dispatch from the EU is a monthly feature provided exclusively for PSL subscribers by Cooley LLP, www.cooley.com. For further information about the above, contact Rod Freeman at rfreeman@cooley.com. Rod Freeman serves as Treasurer of ICPHSO and International Symposium Committee Chair.

BRIEFS

Power Banks: CPSC September 17 said to stop using Herod PW40 power banks and jump starters because the lithium-ion batteries can explode and ignite. CPSC knows of 16 fires, seven with property damages. Chinese manufacturer Qianjiang Simiaole Network Technology has been unresponsive. About 12,500 sold on Amazon, CarKart, and eBay in Aug 2024-Aug 2026 for an unspecified price.

Dressers: CPSC September 17 said to stop using Jocoevol 6-drawer unites that are unstable if not anchored. Chinese retailer Shenzhenshi Yiping Keji Youxian Gongsi (dba Yinklev) has not agreed to recall. No incidents are reported. An unspecified number sold on Amazon in Dec 2024-Jun 2026 for $160.

Infant Walkers: CPSC September 17 said to stop using Xioyig A001 walkers that fit through standard doorways and do not stop at stair tops. No incidents are reported. Chinese retailer Guangzhoushifanerruiguojimaoyiyouxiangongsi (dba Fanerui) has not agreed to recall. About 300 sold on Walmart.com and possibly elsewhere in Mar-Jul 2026 for $73.

Batteries from page 1

lamented that CPSC did not either create exemptions or extend the enforcement stay that lapsed in 2024. Some of the comments pointed out that seniors have high representation among users of these batteries and that the need to use scissors is more difficult and possibly dangerous for them. Most comments were from individuals, but one was from Americans for Hearing and Communication, which wrote:

> "Hearing aid users are disproportionately older adults and individuals with limited dexterity or vision. Child-resistant packaging is, by design, harder to open – a design goal in direct tension with the needs of the very population that must open this packaging routinely, often multiple times per week, to maintain functional hearing. The Commission itself recognized this tension in March 2023, when it granted temporary enforcement discretion "to ensure uninterrupted access to batteries used for hearing aids and other hearing assistance technologies" after manufacturers reported a de facto halt in compliant production…That underlying access problem was deferred, not resolved."

The request for comment (*PSL*, 9/7/26) was limited to incorporating changes to UL 4200A on button/coin batteries into the requirements at 16 CFR 1263. CPSC had posted 37 comments as of the *PSL* deadline. A few addressed other issues, like wanting details of CPSC's analysis of the voluntary standard and or explanations of changes. When CPSC first set the rules, it also gave the temporary stay for zinc-air batteries (*PSL*, 3/13/23).

CPSC Calendar *

When	CPSCers	With/For	Topic/Purpose	Where/How	To Learn More
Sep 21 1:00p	Jill Hurley and others	ASTM F15.71	Seniors and liquid laundry packets	Remote	Hurley, jhurley@cpsc.gov
Sep 22-23 All day	Richard Brown and others	ISO TC 229	Nanotechnology	Remote	Brown, rpbrown@cpsc.gov
Sep 22-26 All day	Einstein Miller	NEC NFPA 70 code panel	2029 NEC	Redondo Beach, Calif.	Miller, emiller@cpsc.gov
Sep 22 9:00a	Andrew Trotta	UL 60335-2-X	Household electrical appliances	Remote	Trotta, atrotta@cpsc.gov
Sep 22 11:00a	Benjamin Mordecai and others	ASTM F15.22	Heat and aging conditioning for battery tests	Remote	Mordecai, bmordecai@cpsc.gov
Sep 24 All day	Scott Ayers and others	ASTM F15.45	Candle fires	Remote	Ayers, sayers@cpsc.gov
Sep 24 11:00a	Zachary Goldstein and others	ASTM F15.07	Buoyancy aids for children	Remote	Goldstein, zgoldstein@cpsc.gov
Sep 24 12:00p	Rebekah Kempske	PHTA	Standards updates	Remote	Kempske, rkempske@cpsc.gov
Sep 24 1:30p	Simon Lee and others	ASTM F15.75	Connected products entrapment prevention	Remote	Lee, splee@cpsc.gov

* (w) = webcast will be available on CPSC website; underscored names are commissioners; times are local; teleconferences are EST/EDT
See CPSC's Public Calendar for a current and complete listing of upcoming meetings: www.cpsc.gov/Newsroom/Public-Calendar

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