

News from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20207

For Immediate Release
August 23, 2006
Release #06-242

Firm's Recall Hotline: (866) 685-5449
CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772
CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

Blount International Inc. Recalls Replacement Blades for Use with Snapper Riding Lawnmowers Due to Laceration Hazard

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. (To access color photos of the following recalled products, see CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov.)

Name of Product: Oregon® and Silver Streak® Replacement Snapper Lawnmower Blades

Units: About 94,000

Manufacturer: Blount International Inc., of Kansas City, Mo.

Hazard: When the lawnmower is operated, the replacement blade can crack and pieces can break away, posing a serious laceration hazard to consumers and bystanders.

Incidents/Injuries: Blount has received six reports of replacement blades either cracking or breaking. No injuries have been reported.

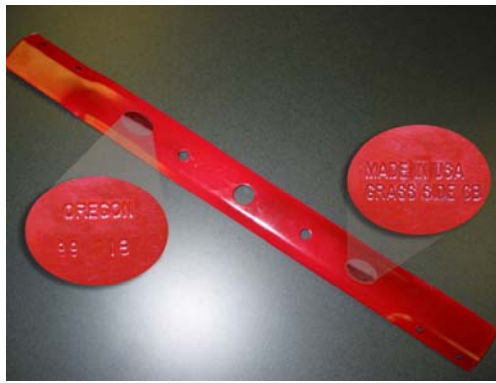
Description and Models: The recalled replacement lawnmower blades are intended for use on Snapper riding lawnmowers. The recalled blades are sold for use as replacement parts under the Oregon® and Silver Streak® brands only. Original equipment blades on Snapper lawnmowers and "Snapper" brand replacement blades are not included in this recall. The recalled blades are red and marked "MADE IN USA," "GRASS SIDE CX", "Oregon" or "SILVER STREAK." The part number and date code are engraved on one side of the blade. The recalled blades are part numbers: 99-111, 99-112, 99-113, 99-114, 99-117, 99-118, 99-926, 99-930 and date codes: BL, BM, BN, BP, BQ, BR, BS, BT, BU, BV, BW, BX, BY, BZ, CA, CB, CC, CD, CE, CF, CG, CH, CJ, CK, CL, CM, CN, CP.

Sold at: Power or yard equipment dealers and hardware stores nationwide from November 2002 through August 2006 for between \$16 and \$28.

Manufactured in: United States

Remedy: Consumers should immediately stop using the replacement blades and return them to the store where purchased or any other retailer that carries Oregon® replacement parts for a free replacement.

Consumer Contact: For more information, consumers can contact Blount at (866) 685-5449 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit Blount's Web sites at www.blount.com or www.Oregonchain.com



The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from more than 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. Deaths, injuries and property damage from consumer product incidents cost the nation more than \$700 billion annually. The CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard. The CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products - such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals - contributed significantly to the 30 percent decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.

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 www.cpsc.gov/talk.html. Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov.

####