NEWS from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 15, 2008 Release #08-271 Firm's Recall Hotline: (800) 521-7733 CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772 CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

Shindaiwa Corp. Recalls Backpack Blowers Due to Laceration and Impact Hazards

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. It is illegal to resell or attempt to resell a recalled consumer product.

Name of Product: Shindaiwa Backpack Blowers

Units: About 23,000

Importer: Shindaiwa Corp., of Lake Zurich, IL

Manufacturer: Shindaiwa Kogyo Co. Ltd, of Hiroshima, Japan

Hazard: The blower's impeller (fan) can separate from the base and break apart, causing plastic pieces to be blown out of the machine, and pose a laceration and impact hazard to consumers. The flying pieces also can cause property damage and injury to bystanders. *Note: These backpack blowers were <u>previously recalled</u> due to a fire hazard.*

Incidents/Injuries: Shindaiwa is aware of 13 incidents involving broken impellers. One incident involved a minor head injury and minor property damage to a nearby automobile.

Description: This recall involves Shindaiwa Models EB8510 and EB8510RT. All models up to serial # 7014728 are included. The backpack blowers weigh approximately 24 pounds and include Serial Numbers through February 2007 production (S/N 702XXX) which are located on the side label. These machines are black and blue with a red and black label that reads, "EB8510, Shindaiwa."

Sold by: Shindaiwa dealers nationwide from September 2005 through January 2007 for about \$600.

Manufactured in: Japan

Remedy: Consumers should stop using the backpack blowers immediately and contact Shindaiwa for the closest dealer location to schedule a free inspection and impeller replacement. Consumers who have registered their equipment should have already received correspondence from Shindaiwa about this recall.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact Shindaiwa at (877) 986-7783 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. CST Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at http://www.shindaiwa.com/usa/en/support 2/safety/index.php





CPSC is still interested in receiving incident or injury reports that are either directly related to this product recall or involve a different hazard with the same product. Please tell us about it by visiting <u>https://www.cpsc.gov/cgibin/incident.aspx</u>

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from thousands of types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. 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 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 (301) 595-7054. To join a CPSC e-mail subscription list, please go to https://www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx. Consumers can obtain recall and general safety information by logging on to CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx.

shindaiwa®

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL

Immediate Replacement Required

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.



EB8510

Backpack Blowers



EB8510RT

Impeller Replacement S/N 5050001 - 7014728

PROBLEM: Over extended hours of use, the EB8510 impeller can separate, causing a thrown object hazard to the operator and bystanders.

PRODUCT: Shindaiwa model EB8510 and EB8510RT Professional Backpack Blowers with Serial Numbers through January 2007 production.

Muffler Replacement S/N 5050001 - 7025018

PROBLEM: Heat from a cracked muffler can cause melting of the fuel tank. This condition could damage the tank and create a fire hazard.

PRODUCT: Shindaiwa model EB8510 and EB8510RT Professional Backpack Blowers with Serial Numbers through February 2007 production.



Owners of these units should contact your dealer immediately for impeller and muffler replacement. These upgrades will be performed at no charge to you.

Shindaiwa dealers: Post this notice in your place of business and ensure that your customers are aware of this recall.

If you have any questions about this program, call 877-986-7786 or visit www.shindaiwa-usa.com