

Safety Alert Bulletin

28 March 2007

Estes-Cox Radio Control Airplanes with Lithium Polymer Batteries Recalled for Fire Hazard

Release #07-139

Firm's Recall Hotline: (800) 576-5811

CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772

CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

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.

Name of product: Radio Control Model Airplanes (Models 4153 and 4161) with Lithium Polymer Batteries

Units: About 66,000

Distributor: Estes-Cox Corp., of Penrose, Colo.

Hazard: The airplanes can overheat while recharging the battery, posing a fire hazard.

Manufactured in: China

Incidents/Injuries: Estes-Cox has received nine reports of overheating, including one report of a plane catching fire and resulting in a minor burn injury.

Description: This recall involves Sky Squadron Model 4153 (sold at RadioShack) and Sky Rangers Model 4161 (sold at Wal-Mart) radio controlled airplanes with rechargeable lithium batteries. The airplanes have a wingspan of about 18- to 20-inches and a polystyrene foam fuselage. Model 4153 is a blue Corsair single engine airplane with a Number 15 decal and a black and blue transmitter/charger. Model 4161 is a red twin engine plane with an all-black transmitter/charger. The model numbers are on the box and instructions.

Sold at: RadioShack stores nationwide sold the Sky Squadron Airplane from December 2006 through February 2007 for about \$35. Wal-Mart stores nationwide sold the Sky Ranger Airplane from January 2007 through February 2007 for about \$30.

Remedy: Consumers with the recalled airplanes should stop using them immediately and contact Estes-Cox for instructions on returning the airplane for a replacement product.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact Estes-Cox at (800) 576-5811 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. MT Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at:

<http://www.estesrockets.com>

To see this recall on CPSC's web site, including pictures of the recalled product, please go to:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml07/07139.html>



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