



COMPOSITE DECKS RECALLED BY LOUISIANA-PACIFIC; DECKS CAN DETERIORATE AND BREAK, POSING FALL 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.

Name of Product: Composite Decks

Units: About 48 million linear feet (decks vary in size)

Manufacturer: Louisiana-Pacific (LP) Corp., of Nashville, Tenn.

Hazard: The recalled decking can prematurely deteriorate and unexpectedly break. Consumers can fall through broken decking and suffer serious injuries.

Incidents/Injuries: LP has received 37 reports of composite decks breaking, resulting in 14 injuries, including a broken wrist, sprained ankle, minor lacerations and bruises.

Description: The recall includes outdoor deck board and railings sold under the brand names LP WeatherBest®, ABTCo., and Veranda®. They are composite products that look similar to natural wood and were sold in various colors including Tuscan Walnut/Chestnut, Driftwood Grey/Greystone, Pacific Cedar and Western Redwood. Veranda decking products were manufactured by multiple firms; only products manufactured by LP are included in this recall.

Sold at: The Home Depot (Veranda® brand) and building product dealers (LP WeatherBest® and ABTCo. brands) nationwide from January 2005 to August 2008 for between \$1.50 and \$2.25 per linear foot.

Manufactured in: United States

Remedy: Consumers with the recalled decking should immediately contact LP for a free inspection. If the decking is affected by premature deterioration, LP will arrange for a free replacement.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact LP toll-free at (888) 325-1184 between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. PT Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at www.deckingnotice.com



Photo of installed decking

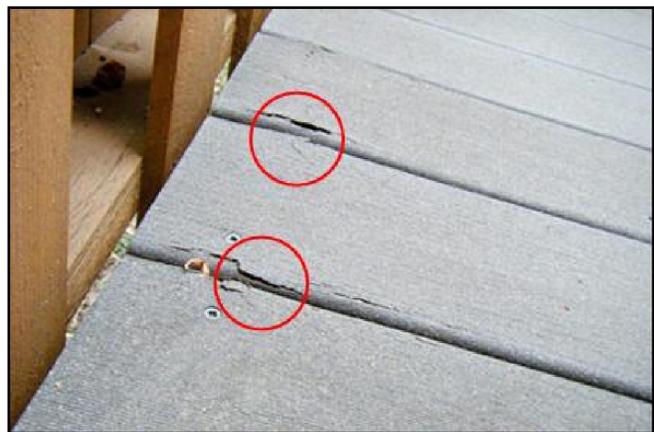


Photo indicating damaged decking

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COMPOSITE DECKS RECALLED BY LOUISIANA-PACIFIC MAY POSE ADDITIONAL HAZARDS IN FIRE AS WELL AS NON-FIRE RESPONSES.

The original recall of the composite decking materials by the CPSC was not specific to fire related events. However, as the product deteriorates, premature failure in a fire situation will be more likely and occur much sooner. Additionally, since there have been 37 failures of the decking materials under normal usage, the weight of several fully equipped firefighters may result in a sudden catastrophic failure of the deck even though the deck itself may not be involved in the fire. Fire/EMS responders may also be at risk if an EMS call requires EMS equipment, such as a gurney, be brought onto a deck in addition to the responders.

The highest concentration of sales of this product was in Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and states west of the Mississippi River according to the manufacturer's web site.

An Information Bulletin issued in January 2009, provided information on lightweight construction and engineered lumber stability under fire conditions. The January Information Bulletin may be accessed at:

<http://www.dos.state.ny.us/fire/pdfs/bulletins/2009Bulletins/0901271.pdf>



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