

Released under FOI

Gregoric, Daniel

From: Karam, John <Johnny.Karam@Mattel.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 23 January 2013 4:50 AM
To: Ng, Pauline
Subject: RE: Inquiry re: Fisher-Price Newborn Rock 'n Play Sleeper [DLM=Sensitive]
Attachments: image009.png; image010.png; image011.png; image012.png; image013.png; image014.png; image015.png

Dear Pauline,

Thank you for your email.

In answer to your question the Fisher Price Rock n Play Sleeper has been supplied in Australia, however, the last shipment of product was in June 2011. No further shipments of the product are planned.

To give you some further background on the CPSC notice, the release is a "recall to inspect", not a recall. Consumers are not being asked to return products, rather, they are being asked to inspect their products, and if they find mildew, to call Fisher Price for cleaning instructions or further assistance. Retailers in the US are also not being asked to return inventory of the product. I understand that the CPSC has previously used the phrase "recall to inspect" in similar cases.

Investigations undertaken by Fisher Price indicate that the Product does not contain mildew at the time of sale, and that mildew will only grow in the product where moisture and nutrients (such as dust, formula etc) are present. Mildew will not develop if the product is kept clean and dry. The Rock n Play Sleeper's synthetic material is not a hospitable environment for mildew. The product design makes it easy to remove and machine-wash the pad which also exposes the fabric covered under-support for inspection for soiling and moisture. No feasible product design would prevent mildew growth if product is left soiled and damp for an extended period of time, and similar issues would arise with other baby product if they are not kept clean and dry. The instructions for use contain cleaning instructions. That is, the product is not in any way defective and the issue only appears to arise as a result of failing to clean the product.

Mattel Pty Ltd has not received any reports of mildew in relation to this product in Australia. Given that the product is not defective and no consumer complaints have been received in Australia, Mattel Pty Ltd does not consider that any action is warranted in relation to this issue in Australia.

Please contact me if you have any questions in relation to the above or require further information.

Regards,

John Karam

Regional Director Asia Pacific

Supply Chain & Compliance

From: Ng, Pauline HYPERLINK "mailto:[mailto:Pauline.Ng@accg.gov.au]" \n[mailto:Pauline.Ng@accg.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2013 2:30 PM
To: Karam, John
Subject: Inquiry re: Fisher-Price Newborn Rock 'n Play Sleeper [DLM=Sensitive]

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Dear Mr Karam

I am seeking information about availability of Fisher-Price products in Australia and would greatly appreciate any information you are able to provide. The Product Safety Branch of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) monitors overseas recalls and possible emerging hazards to ensure the safety of Australian consumers.

In particular I would be interested to know if the following products have been supplied to the Australian marketplace:

Products: Fisher-Price Newborn Rock 'n Play Sleeper

[Source: US CPSC recall <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml13/13087.html>]

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Pauline Ng
Project Officer | Recalls & Hazard Assessment Section, Product Safety
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
Level34 | 360 Elizabeth Street Melbourne 3000

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\nwww.recalls.gov.au | HYPERLINK "<https://mail.ap.mattel.com/owa/UrlBlockedError.aspx>"
\nwww.productsafety.gov.au

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