



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
4330 EAST WEST HIGHWAY
BETHESDA, MD 20814

Robert S. Kaye
Director
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Manufacturers, Importers, Distributors, and Retailers of Adult Portable Bed Rails and Related Products

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to urge you to make certain that Adult Portable Bed Rails (APBRs) that you manufacture, import, distribute, or sell in the United States comply with ASTM F3186-17, *Standard Specification for Adult Portable Bed Rails and Related Products*.¹ This standard reduces the serious risks of entrapment and strangulation associated with APBRs.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has received numerous reports of entrapment and strangulation fatalities involving ABPRs. Many of these deaths may have been prevented had the ABPRs complied with the requirements of ASTM F3186-17.

If any of the APBRs manufactured, imported, distributed, or sold by your Firm do not meet all applicable requirements in F3186-17, the CPSC's Office of Compliance and Field Operations may regard those products as having a defect which could present a substantial product hazard under Section 15(a) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (CPSA), 15 U.S.C § 2064(a). We will investigate any such products we encounter and may seek appropriate corrective action.

CPSC urges you to review your product line immediately. If you find that any of the APBRs that you manufacture, import, distribute, or sell in the United States fail to comply with the applicable requirements of ASTM F3186-17, we urge you to stop manufacturing, importing, distributing, or selling those products.

Furthermore, you also should be aware that Section 15(b) of the CPSA, 15 U.S.C. § 2064(b), requires every manufacturer, importer, distributor, and retailer of consumer products to report immediately to the Commission when the firm obtains information which reasonably supports the conclusion that such products distributed in commerce contain a defect that could create a substantial product hazard, or that such product creates an unreasonable risk of serious injury or death to consumers. The failure to report the information required by section 15(b) is a prohibited act under section 19 of the CPSA, 15 U.S.C. § 2068(a)(4). The CPSA at 15 U.S.C. § 2069 provides for imposition of civil penalties for knowingly failing to report the required

¹ ASTM F3186-17 was published on August 1, 2017. It can be purchased directly from ASTM.

information. Criminal penalties also may be imposed for knowing and willful violations of the CPSA. 15 U.S.C. § 2070.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Kaye
Director
Office of Compliance and Field Operations