10/17/94	Case assigned to Norvan Allen who requested previous test results. Old CECA files had been sent to achieves but could not be located when requested. Engineering files had been purged during move from old building. FOWR continued to request strategy meeting with CEAL and CECA staff to plan approach for handling the manufacturer.
11/9/94	Product appears on Dr. Kaufman's toy list
11/9/94	Marc Schoem phoned FOWR requesting immediate action with the identified manufacturer, Riva Sports.
11/10/94	FOWR discussed case and type of approach with Mike Gidding.
11/10/94	FOWR telephoned Mr. Robert Jacobs, owner/operator Riva Sports. Mr. Jacobs refused to take any action and "hung up."
11/30/94	Preliminary determination panel met. Decided on a Class B "go". Sample was requested through FOCR.
12/1/94	Case opening letter sent to Riva Sports. Certified card returned to FOWR 12/7. Response due from firm 12/16/94.
12/5/94	FOWR requested investigations of other identified incidents in Tennesee and Ohio. (A different brand, CX Blaster was also assigned in Florida).
12/12/94	Congressional inquiry regarding an incident 3 1/2 years ago in Montana. The Commission was unaware of this incident but will assign it for follow-up.

Water Balloon Slig Shot Devices

In late 1989, the staff became aware of the budding interest in a new sports product called water balloon sling shots. These products were designed, labelled and marketed as "target shooting" devices.

The design is very elementary; surgical tubing connected to a rubber sling which must be held by two individuals while the third loads the sling with a large balloon filled with water. The missile is then projected at a target which is furnished in the kit. The product warns the users not to fire at living targets. The lable depicts adults using the product.

The opportunity for abuse is evident. The Engineering and Compliance staffs collected several varieties and tested them to measure velocity. The readings were in the 80, 90 100 mph range on initial launch but the velocity quickly fell off due to the weight and irregular shape of the balloon. The staff did recognize, however, that if a person were struck with such a balloon at a reasonably close range, serious injury would occur.

The simplistic design of the product lends itself to be easily created in a basement and marketed for little money. The staff was unable at that time to trace the three or four incidents that were reported to any particular manufacturer. They did know definitely that some were homemade.

The product best lends itself to a banning order rather that section 15 action but during the staff's early investigation there was no interest on the part of the Commission in issuing a banning order.

We did not hear of additional incidents until this past summer:

7/4/94Injury incident to 9 yr old female in Illinois

7/25/94CPSC received complaint by mother of victim

8/12/94On-site investigation initiated

9/22/94Investigation rec'd and reviewed in San Francisco

9/26/94FOWR asked CECA about possible section 15 follow-up. Initial response after CECA review was not to pursue.

10/11/94 FOWR discussed previous testing of water balloons sling shots with John Preston.

Discussed case possibilities with Mike Gidding.
Mike agreed the case was worth pursuing.

10/17/94	Case assigned to Norvan Allen who requested previous test results. Old CECA files had been sent to achieves but could not be located when requested. Engineering files had been purged during move from old building. FOWR continued to request strategy meeting with CEAL and CECA staff to plan approach for handling the manufacturer.
11/9/94	Product appears on Dr. Kaufman's toy list
11/9/94	Marc Schoem phoned FOWR requesting immediate action with the identified manufacturer, Riva Sports.
11/10/94	FOWR discussed case and type of approach with Mike Gidding.
11/10/94	FOWR telephoned Mr. Robert Jacobs, owner/operator Riva Sports. Mr. Jacobs refused to take any action and "hung up."
11/30/94	Preliminary determination panel met. Decided on a Class B "go". Sample was requested through FOCR.
12/1/94	Case opening letter sent to Riva Sports. Certified card returned to FOWR 12/7. Response due from firm 12/16/94.
12/5/94	FOWR requested investigations of other identified incidents in Tennesee and Ohio. (A different brand, CX Blaster was also assigned in Florida).
12/12/94	Congressional inquiry regarding an incident 3 1/2 years ago in Montana. The Commission was unaware of this incident but will assign it for follow-up.

In late 1989, the staff became aware of the budding interest in a new sports product called water balloon sling shots. These products were designed, labelled and marketed as "target shooting" devices.

The design is very elementary; surgical tubing connected to a rubber sling which must be held by two individuals while the third loads the sling with a large balloon filled with water. The missile is then projected at a target which is furnished in the kit. The product warns the users not to fire at living targets. The lable depicts adults using the product.

The opportunity for abuse is evident. The Engineering and Compliance staffs collected several varieties and tested them to measure velocity. The readings were in the 80, 90 100 mph range on initial launch but the velocity quickly fell off due to the weight and irregular shape of the balloon. The staff did recognize, however, that if a person were struck with such a balloon at a reasonably close range, serious injury would occur.

The simplistic design of the product lends itself to be easily created in a basement and marketed for little money. The staff was unable at that time to trace the three or four incidents that were reported to any particular manufacturer. They did know definitely that some were homemade.

The product best lends itself to a banning order rather that section 15 action but during the staff's early investigation there was no interest on the part of the Commission in issuing a banning order.

We did not hear of additional incidents until this past summer:

7/4/94	Injury incident to 9 yr old female in Illinois
7/25/94	CPSC received complaint by mother of victim
8/12/94	On-site investigation initiated
9/22/94	Investigation rec'd and reviewed in San Francisco
9/26/94	FOWR asked CECA about possible section 15 follow-up. Initial response after CECA review was not to pursue.
10/11/94	FOWR discussed previous testing of water balloons sling shots with John Preston.
	Discussed case possibilities with Mike Gidding. Mike agreed the case was worth pursuing.

10/17/94	Case assigned to Norvan Allen who requested previous test results. Old CECA files had been sent to achieves but could not be located when requested. Engineering files had been purged during move from old building. FOWR continued to request strategy meeting with CEAL and CECA staff to plan approach for handling the manufacturer.
11/9/94	Product appears on Dr. Kaufman's toy list
11/9/94	Marc Schoem phoned FOWR requesting immediate action with the identified manufacturer, Riva Sports.
11/10/94	FOWR discussed case and type of approach with Mike Gidding.
11/10/94	FOWR telephoned Mr. Robert Jacobs, owner/operator Riva Sports. Mr. Jacobs refused to take any action and "hung up."
11/30/94	Preliminary determination panel met. Decided on a Class B "go". Sample was requested through FOCR.
12/1/94	Case opening letter sent to Riva Sports. Certified card returned to FOWR 12/7. Response due from firm 12/16/94.
12/5/94	FOWR requested investigations of other identified incidents in Tennesee and Ohio. (A different brand, CX Blaster was also assigned in Florida).
12/12/94	Congressional inquiry regarding an incident 3 1/2 years ago in Montana. The Commission was unaware of this incident but will assign it for follow-up.

In late 1989, the staff became aware of the budding interest in a new sports product called water balloon sling shots. These products were designed, labelled and marketed as "target shooting" devices.

The design is very elementary; surgical tubing connected to a rubber sling which must be held by two individuals while the third loads the sling with a large balloon filled with water. The missile is then projected at a target which is furnished in the kit. The product warns the users not to fire at living targets. The lable depicts adults using the product.

The opportunity for abuse is evident. The Engineering and Compliance staffs collected several varieties and tested them to measure velocity. The readings were in the 80, 90 100 mph range on initial launch but the velocity quickly fell off due to the weight and irregular shape of the balloon. The staff did recognize, however, that if a person were struck with such a balloon at a reasonably close range, serious injury would occur.

The simplistic design of the product lends itself to be easily created in a basement and marketed for little money. The staff was unable at that time to trace the three or four incidents that were reported to any particular manufacturer. They did know definitely that some were homemade.

The product best lends itself to a banning order rather that section 15 action but during the staff's early investigation there was no interest on the part of the Commission in issuing a banning order.

We did not hear of additional incidents until this past summer:

7/4/94	Injury incident to 9 yr old female in Illinois
7/25/94	CPSC received complaint by mother of victim
8/12/94	On-site investigation initiated
9/22/94	Investigation rec'd and reviewed in San Francisco
9/26/94	FOWR asked CECA about possible section 15 follow-up. Initial response after CECA review was not to pursue.
10/11/94	FOWR discussed previous testing of water balloons sling shots with John Preston.
	Discussed case possibilities with Mike Gidding. Mike agreed the case was worth pursuing.

In late 1989, the staff became aware of the budding interest in a new sports product called water balloon sling shots. These products were designed, labelled and marketed as "target shooting" devices.

The design is very elementary; surgical tubing connected to a rubber sling which must be held by two individuals while the third loads the sling with a large balloon filled with water. The missile is then projected at a target which is furnished in the kit. The product warns the users not to fire at living targets. The lable depicts adults using the product.

The opportunity for abuse is evident. The Engineering and Compliance staffs collected several varieties and tested them to measure velocity. The readings were in the 80, 90 100 mph range on initial launch but the velocity quickly fell off due to the weight and irregular shape of the balloon. The staff did recognize, however, that if a person were struck with such a balloon at a reasonably close range, serious injury would occur.

The simplistic design of the product lends itself to be easily created in a basement and marketed for little money. The staff was unable at that time to trace the three or four incidents that were reported to any particular manufacturer. They did know definitely that some were homemade.

The product best lends itself to a banning order rather that section 15 action but during the staff's early investigation there was no interest on the part of the Commission in issuing a banning order.

We did not hear of additional incidents until this past summer:

7/4/94	Injury incident to 9 yr old female in Illinois
7/25/94	CPSC received complaint by mother of victim
8/12/94	On-site investigation initiated
9/22/94	Investigation rec'd and reviewed in San Francisco
9/26/94	FOWR asked CECA about possible section 15 follow-up. Initial response after CECA review was not to pursue.
10/11/94	FOWR discussed previous testing of water balloons sling shots with John Preston. Discussed case possibilities with Mike Gidding. Mike agreed the case was worth pursuing.

In late 1989, the staff became aware of the budding interest in a new sports product called water balloon sling shots. These products were designed, labelled and marketed as "target shooting" devices.

The design is very elementary; surgical tubing connected to a rubber sling which must be held by two individuals while the third loads the sling with a large balloon filled with water. The missile is then projected at a target which is furnished in the kit. The product warns the users not to fire at living targets. The lable depicts adults using the product.

The opportunity for abuse is evident. The Engineering and Compliance staffs collected several varieties and tested them to measure velocity. The readings were in the 80, 90 100 mph range on initial launch but the velocity quickly fell off due to the weight and irregular shape of the balloon. The staff did recognize, however, that if a person were struck with such a balloon at a reasonably close range, serious injury would occur.

The simplistic design of the product lends itself to be easily created in a basement and marketed for little money. The staff was unable at that time to trace the three or four incidents that were reported to any particular manufacturer. They did know definitely that some were homemade.

The product best lends itself to a banning order rather that section 15 action but during the staff's early investigation there was no interest on the part of the Commission in issuing a banning order.

We did not hear of additional incidents until this past summer:

7/4/94	Injury incident to 9 yr old female in Illinois
7/25/94	CPSC received complaint by mother of victim
8/12/94	On-site investigation initiated
9/22/94	Investigation rec'd and reviewed in San Francisco
9/26/94	FOWR asked CECA about possible section 15 follow-up. Initial response after CECA review was not to pursue.
10/11/94	FOWR discussed previous testing of water balloons sling shots with John Preston.
	Discussed case possibilities with Mike Gidding. Mike agreed the case was worth pursuing.

10/17/94 Case assigned to Norvan Allen who requested previous test results. Old CECA files had been sent to achieves but could not be located when requested. Engineering files had been purged during move from old building.

FOWR continued to request strategy meeting with CEAL and CECA staff to plan approach for handling the manufacturer.

11/9/94 Product appears on Dr. Kaufman's toy list

11/9/94 Marc Schoem phoned FOWR requesting immediate action with the identified manufacturer, Riva Sports.

11/10/94 FOWR discussed case and type of approach with Mike Gidding.

11/10/94 FOWR telephoned Mr. Robert Jacobs, owner/operator Riva Sports. Mr. Jacobs refused to take any action and "hung up."

11/30/94 Preliminary determination panel met. Decided on a Class B "go". Sample was requested through FOCR.

12/1/94 Case opening letter sent to Riva Sports. Certified card returned to FOWR 12/7.

Response due from firm 12/16/94.

12/5/94 FOWR requested investigations of other identified incidents in Tennesee and Ohio. (A different brand, CX Blaster was also assigned in Florida).

12/12/94 Congressional inquiry regarding an incident 3 1/2 years ago in Montana. The Commission was unaware of this incident but will assign it for follow-up.

10/17/94	Case assigned to Norvan Allen who requested previous test results. Old CECA files had been sent to achieves but could not be located when requested. Engineering files had been purged during move from old building. FOWR continued to request strategy meeting with CEAL and CECA staff to plan approach for handling the manufacturer.
11/9/94	Product appears on Dr. Kaufman's toy list
11/9/94	Marc Schoem phoned FOWR requesting immediate action with the identified manufacturer, Riva Sports.
11/10/94	FOWR discussed case and type of approach with Mike Gidding.
11/10/94	FOWR telephoned Mr. Robert Jacobs, owner/operator Riva Sports. Mr. Jacobs refused to take any action and "hung up."
11/30/94	Preliminary determination panel met. Decided on a Class B "go". Sample was requested through FOCR.
12/1/94	Case opening letter sent to Riva Sports. Certified card returned to FOWR 12/7. Response due from firm 12/16/94.
12/5/94	FOWR requested investigations of other identified incidents in Tennesee and Ohio. (A different brand, CX Blaster was also assigned in Florida).
12/12/94	Congressional inquiry regarding an incident 3 1/2 years ago in Montana. The Commission was unaware of this incident but will assign it for follow-up.

10/17/94	Case assigned to Norvan Allen who requested previous test results. Old CECA files had been sent to achieves but could not be located when requested. Engineering files had been purged during move from old building. FOWR continued to request strategy meeting with CEAL and CECA staff to plan approach for handling the manufacturer.
11/9/94	Product appears on Dr. Kaufman's toy list
11/9/94	Marc Schoem phoned FOWR requesting immediate action with the identified manufacturer, Riva Sports.
11/10/94	FOWR discussed case and type of approach with Mike Gidding.
11/10/94	FOWR telephoned Mr. Robert Jacobs, owner/operator Riva Sports. Mr. Jacobs refused to take any action and "hung up."
11/30/94	Preliminary determination panel met. Decided on a Class B "go". Sample was requested through FOCR.
12/1/94	Case opening letter sent to Riva Sports. Certified card returned to FOWR 12/7. Response due from firm 12/16/94.
12/5/94	FOWR requested investigations of other identified incidents in Tennesee and Ohio. (A different brand, CX Blaster was also assigned in Florida).
12/12/94	Congressional inquiry regarding an incident 3 1/2 years ago in Montana. The Commission was unaware of this incident but will assign it for follow-up.

Norman Allen 505-
766-2108

Get injury data

Water Balloon Sling Shot Devices

In late 1989, the staff became aware of the budding interest in a new sports product called water balloon sling shots. These products were designed, labelled and marketed as "target shooting" devices.

The design is very elementary; surgical tubing connected to a rubber sling which must be held by two individuals while the third loads the sling with a large balloon filled with water. The missile is then projected at a target which is furnished in the kit. The product warns the users not to fire at living targets. The lable depicts adults using the product.

The opportunity for abuse is evident. The Engineering and Compliance staffs collected several varieties and tested them to measure velocity. The readings were in the 80, 90 100 mph range on initial launch but the velocity quickly fell off due to the weight and irregular shape of the balloon. The staff did recognize, however, that if a person were struck with such a balloon at a reasonably close range, serious injury would occur.

The simplistic design of the product lends itself to be easily created in a basement and marketed for little money. The staff was unable at that time to trace the three or four incidents that were reported to any particular manufacturer. They did know definitely that some were homemade.

The product best lends itself to a banning order rather that section 15 action but during the staff's early investigation there was no interest on the part of the Commission in issuing a banning order.

We did not hear of additional incidents until this past summer:

7/4/94	Injury incident to 9 yr old female in Illinois
7/25/94	CPSC received complaint by mother of victim
8/12/94	On-site investigation initiated
9/22/94	Investigation rec'd and reviewed in San Francisco
9/26/94	FOWR asked CECA about possible section 15 follow-up. Initial response after CECA review was not to pursue.
10/11/94	FOWR discussed previous testing of water balloons sling shots with John Preston. Discussed case possibilities with Mike Gidding. Mike agreed the case was worth pursuing.

10/17/94 Case assigned to Norvan Allen who requested previous test results. Old CECA files had been sent to achieves but could not be located when requested. Engineering files had been purged during move from old building.

See Doug about archives

FOWR continued to request strategy meeting with CEAL and CECA staff to plan approach for handling the manufacturer.

11/9/94 Product appears on Dr. Kaufman's toy list

11/9/94 Marc Schoem phoned FOWR requesting immediate action with the identified manufacturer, Riva Sports.

11/10/94 FOWR discussed case and type of approach with Mike Gidding.

11/10/94 FOWR telephoned Mr. Robert Jacobs, owner/operator Riva Sports. Mr. Jacobs refused to take any action and "hung up."

11/30/94 Preliminary determination panel met. Decided on a Class B "go". Sample was requested through FOCR.

12/1/94 Case opening letter sent to Riva Sports. Certified card returned to FOWR 12/7.

Response due from firm 12/16/94. Ask Lee if he is tracking down other firms

Chairman wants response.

12/5/94 FOWR requested investigations of other identified incidents in Tennesee and Ohio. (A different brand, CX Blaster was also assigned in Florida).

12/12/94 Congressional inquiry regarding an incident 3 1/2 years ago in Montana. The Commission was unaware of this incident but will assign it for follow-up.

12/14/94 Robert Jacobs, Man Riva replied. Will respond after the holidays.

1/5/95 Telecon Norvan Allen w Brock Landry, Esq for Riva. Asked for response by mid-January and 2 samples.

Facts

1. 6 Firms: Riva Sport (12), CX Blaster (5), Sling Ring (1), Original Ringer (1), Northern Hydraulics (1), Winger (1)

2. 26 inc — 88 — 94
eye inj — Ages 9 – 39
1 cardiac arrest — at least 2 loss of vision

3. Surg tubing - need 3 people to launch
ES 80 – 100 MPH (1989)
- 100 yds distances

4. HF - CONS Perception?
- Can it be changed for safe use?
5. CAP - can prod be changed to stop inj?
- OR ????

6 Options: BAN -
LABEL
REDESIGN

7. DEFECT? USE IS TO HIT PEOPLE!

Overview

3-30-95 Mr. Ch Cron

(15 - correct label)

Riva - Aqua Sling

1. SPH - (determined by FOWR 12/1/94 Barton to Jacobs)
Latent hazard not perceived as serious hazard by users.

2. Data - 24 injuries: 17 eye, 1 cardiac, 1 neck paralyzing
[5 rocks potato not incl]
5 "injured"
(19) hit by balloon / (4) rebounding (1) tubing broke

1987-1994 (7y) = 2-3 py hit by launched balloon

(a.) Most serious were: blind in one eye & cardiac arrest, & all rebounding lost eye, tubing broke
(b.) All were at close range: 20y 50y

3. Products: 5 firms = 24 injuries.
Riva made 400,000

4. Hazard: (1) Self — 1 man operation 3 of 5 (others rebound unclear)

(2) Hit by balloon [13 eye inj, 1 card, 1 neck] (4 "inj")

5. To Prevent Hazard: Ban - Redesign - Explicit, strong label?

(6) Risk of injury: SMALL
400,000 150 balloons - bag $2.50 mostly misses
inaccurate / not intentional

180

1-19-95 Received file. Briefed Comm. Time Frame per Marc S.
mid February
Disc w Gidding: we need HF - majority use at people by teens/20s = risk of injury
1-19-95 Called Now Allen @ MT IDI done?
1-19-95 PSA to HF to assess user behavior + labeling.
1-19-95 Called Brock Landry for samples.
1-20-95 B Landry - voice mail mess - will receive samples + send today or next week as soon as they come.

1-30-95 1-202-639-6066 f/u req for Report still not received
2-1-95 Telecon: Brock Landry - will object to banning product.
Want to discuss labels/warnings. Is sending report today & 2 samples of ASK 200 model.
2/23/95 After cons w Mike Gidding sent B Landry 5 IDIs
2/24/95 PSA - Test launch velocities due 3/3
lost -

Chronology ① Baxter ltr SPH to Jacobs Dec 1
"latent hazard - not apprec by users -
eye loss vision - 200 ft p sec - 100 yd range"

② Landry sent 2 samples Jan 23

③ Riva sent report Feb 1 400,000 in 7 y
Suits: 5 rocks, 1 potato, 2 ball - unk circumstan

④ PSA to test velocity - lost -

⑤ HF assessment of likely use & labels.
① Likely to be misused ② ~~Unlikely to be perceived as dangerous~~

on product

WARNING: Follow Directions - unclear - some don't make sense
21 & over NOT / adult supv. NOT

Do Not Shoot at People - doesn't square w fun (target - no thrill)

Injury Can Result - not clear HOW

Use Aqua Sling Balloon & Target - for awhile, Why?

An Adult Gun - Not For Children - what are children?
14, 16, 18, 21 ?

SPH: $\boxed{\text{Defect}}$ = latent hazard - How to address: Other projectile Ban or Explicit, Strong Label or Redesign?

$\boxed{\text{Injuries}}$ = 24 injuries by waterballoon in 7 y (2-3 p year from balloon) - shot by teens to adults
> 4 hit from rebounding balloon, 1 hit by tubing, 19 hit by Balloon
10 in 1994 (3 self, 3 bab, 3 inj)
[15 Riva, 2 (w) Ringer, 2 Blaster, 1 Sling King, 1 Hyd
3 link

Close is most serious Blindness, 20% lost eyeball tubing, cardiac 50y

Risk of Inj: small - 150 balloon bag for $250 = mostly misses - But impact velocity imp.
To reduce inj: by instilling No 1 man
[illegible]

18

Diff hazard to adults - because of expected use & behavior

WATER BALLOON SLINGSHOT FIRMS

3 Firms in business: @500,000 1987-1995 21 INJURIES (plus 3 unk firms) = 24

1. RIVA SPORTS 400,000 1987-present 15injuries EI
   P.O.Box 600404
   San Diego, CA 92160 2 models

2. SLINGKING, Inc. 25,000(94) 1988-present 0 injuries EI
   16810 Barker Springs (100,000)
   Houston, TX 77084 4 models
   1 injury CPSC G3 B0119A1

3. WINGER SPORTS (out of business) ?-4/1991 2 injuries Gone
   1306 West Country Rd (cardiac arr)
   Arden Hills, MN 55112

4. C.X. BLASTER 10,000py 1985-present 3 injuries EI
   13218 Jessica Drive (100,000) (lost eye)
   Springhill, FL 4 models

"Present label: Use responsibly. Use discretion. Wear protective eye goggles. Never launch at eye level."

5. Rite Aid - (assigned IDI to determine brand H9550313A) cannot determine

New ~~one~~ coming into business.

A WARNING:
Facial fractures and severe eye damage.
Water balloons are shot at speeds of 75 mph.
Never shoot at people.

done Kek 12/14/94

TO : Corrective Actions Division PRIORITY ___

FROM : WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

SUBJECT : Section 15 Investigation Status

FILE NUMBER: **FW95-004** DT OPENED: 11/30/94 DT CLOSED:

CACA CONTACT: Catherine E. Kelsey RO: FOWR -

COMPANY NAME: **Riva Sports**
STREET:

CITY: **San Diego** STATE:CA ZIP: 92160

COMPANY CONTACT: **Robert Jacobs** PHONE:**619 287-3511**

TYPE: MFG DIST XXX RETAIL PVT LBLD IMPORTER

NEISS PROD CODE: **1352**
PROD DESCRIP: **Water Balloon Sling Shot 3 person**
MODEL:
BRAND: **Aqua Sling**
POTENTIAL HAZARD: **Eye and Facial Injuries**
COMMENTS: Other reported injuries, previous history

==========

IDI NUMBER(S): **940812CCN2165**
SAMPLE NUMBER(S):
Location Box

==========

REGIONAL OFFICE PLANS FOR FOLLOW-UP INVESTIGATION Timetable

ESTABLISHMENT INSPECTION.DATE
OTHER INVESTIGATION.DATE
Other IDI's (list below).DATE
SAMPLE ANALYSIS.....DATE
OTHER (Describe below)

Regional Office Summary and Recommedation will be submitted (date)

==========

ASSISTANCE NEEDED FROM CACA/COMMENTS:

(Use Continuation Sheet if needed

==========

Distribution:
Orig: CEKelsey, CECA
cc: LDBaxter LSBlend, LHPain,
JSwisher, RBurrows
Estab. File

184

CLOSE OUT SHEET

FILE NUMBER: FW950004

DATE CLOSED (YYMMDD) : 96/07/96

TOTAL UNITS INVOLVED: 400,000 (1988-95)

TOTAL UNITS CORRECTED: 0

REMARKS: Firm agreed to put labels on pouches and packaging, Label was devised by our HF and included "eye Injuries," speed of 75mph, don't shoot at people.

CAP IMPLEMENTED: YES X NO

WHERE THIS FILE IS STORED:

LOCATION: CA00000

ACCESSION#:

BOX#:

_____ INCIDENT DATE SENT TO EPI

_____ IDENTIFY/MARK PAGES THAT HAVE INCIDENT

_____ NO INCIDENT DATA FOR EPI IN THIS FILE

1989

POTENTIAL DANGER: Injury to eyes and face

PRODUCT: Flyaway Copter Base Watch #01020

MANUFACTURER: Tri-King

Facial and eye injury are what a child can expect from this wrist-mounted helicopter. It has no directional controls and could easily fly into a child's face when launched.

POTENTIAL DANGER: Bodily injury/possible death

PRODUCT: Water Balloon Sling Shots

MANUFACTURER: Aqua Sling
P.O. Box 20404
San Diego, CA 92120

(Other manufacturers also make similar products)

Water balloon slingshots are an extremely dangerous and potentially lethal product that has come onto the market place in the last two years. This item comes from David Snow, the person responsible for the banning of Lawn Darts.

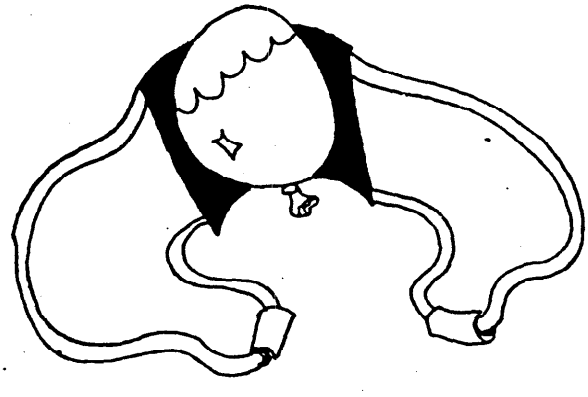
These huge sling shots are made from 1/2 inch surgical rubber tubing, require three persons to operate, and launch water balloons at speeds of 230 MPH or 340 feet per second. At such speeds, water balloons assume the same physical properties as a rock. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of persons have been severely injured after being struck by water balloons fired by these slingshots.

The sling shots are marketed under the names of "Aqua Sling," "The Blaster," and "The Winger," for example. Slingshot-

launched balloon naval combat has become the latest rage among boaters throughout the nation. These slingshots also have become a popular play activity at colleges, beaches and parks.

The Michelle Snow Foundation was recently contacted by parents whose children have been severely injured or almost killed after being struck by water balloons fired by these slingshots. A 10-year-old boy went into cardiac arrest after being hit in the chest by a balloon. He was revived by CPR, but now has serious heart damage. In another incident, a 9-year old was struck in the face by a water balloon fired by a passing boat at an Arizona resort. He was knocked unconscious, suffered three severe facial fractures, ocular injury and multiple lacerations and contusions.

The CPSC has been given product samples, injury information, and identification of manufacturers. Water balloon slingshots present a substantial and unreasonable risk of serious injury and possibly death.

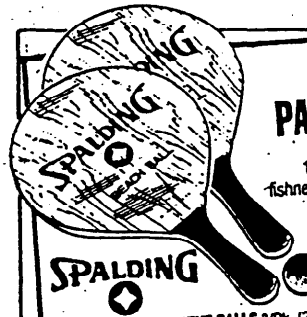


CASE NO. 881007WES4003
EXHIBIT #12

RETAIL STORE ADVERTISEMENT - AQUAL SLING AND AQUA SLING BALLONS.
EXHIBIT SUBMITTED BY THE VICTIM"S FATHER.

Open To The Public

ALL AMERICAN SportsClub
SPORTS EQUIPMENT / APPAREL



BEACH PADDLE SET

2 wooden paddles, 1 durable paddleball, fishnet tote bag. (295899)

5.69

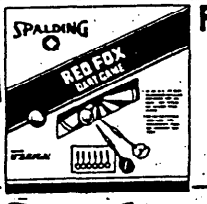
SPALDING

SPALDING REPLACEMENT BALLS 3/Pk. (295907) 1.92

FAMILY SOFT TOUCH DART GAME SET

Nylon tip darts, board & authentic scoring. (149377)

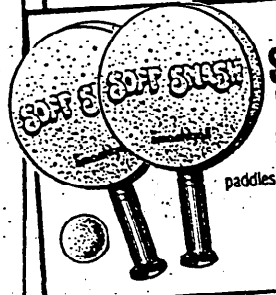
9.40



RED FOX DART BOARD SET

6 brass darts & 1 board. (149369)

11.43



SMASHBALL PADDLE SET

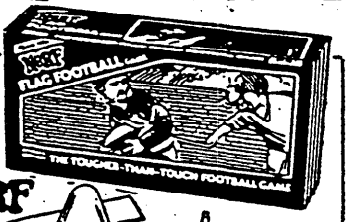
Soft Smash® paddle set includes 2 soft foam paddles with foam ball. (287680)

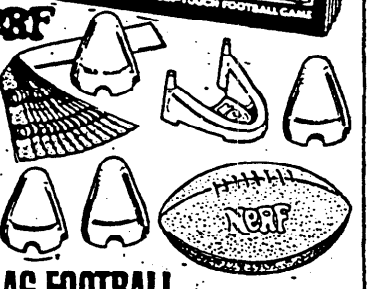
4.87

SPALDING ENGLISH BRISTLE DART BOARD

(149252)

24.11

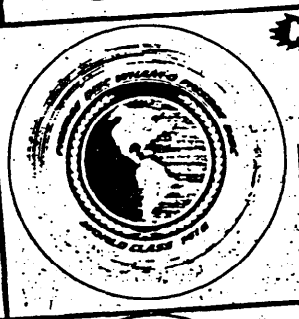




FLAG FOOTBALL

With high visibility field markers, kicking tee, authentic duo-color NERF® football and rugged vinyl flags. (346684)

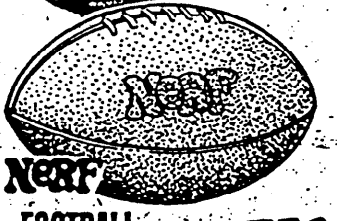
12.68



WHAM-O WORLD CLASS FRISBEE

#141G (11114)

4.87



NERF FOOTBALL

¾ standard size easy to pass & catch. Assorted colors. (297507)

5.73

NERF INDOOR GOLF

Any home becomes a 9-hole miniature golf course with NERF® Indoor Golf. Comes with 2 golf clubs, 9 ring holes w/attachable flags, score pad & 4 vinyl golf balls. Ages 6 & up. (346668)

19.98

"AEROBIE" FLYING DISC

Hold Guiness Book of world records for throw of 1102 feet. (019695)

5.98

NERF BASKETBALL

Indoor basketball & hoop. Claps to any door or mount on wall. Won't mark. (297499)

6.48

TABLE HOCKEY

Brings real air hockey action to almost any table—won't mar furniture. Equipment sets up in minutes & adjusts to fit most table sizes & shapes. Ages 7 to adult–2 players. (346650)

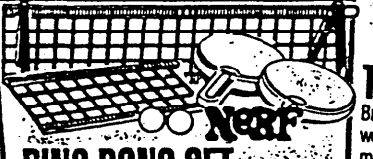
23.45

AQUA SLING BALLOON SLING

Great for beach. Cool friends off with the far shooting sling shot. (287987)

9.82

AQUA SLING BALLOONS 144/Bag. (287995) 2.51



NERF PING PONG SET

Indoor tennis played on any size table. Won't mark. Includes net, 2 paddles & 2 balls. (297473)

14.44

188

MEETING LOG

May 17, 1995

9:00 am

Firm: Riva Sport

Product: Agua Sling
Balloon
Slingshot

NAME	ORGANIZATION
MARC SCHOEM	CPSC-Compliance
George Sweet	CPSC - EPHF
Mike Giddings	CPSC - CAL
Jean Kennedy	CPSC - CA
Brock Landry	Representing Riva Sport