



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

Caroleene Paul
Mechanical Engineer
Division of Mechanical Engineering
Directorate for Engineering Sciences

Tel: 301-987-2225
Fax: 301-869-0294
Email: cpaul@cpsc.gov

December 16, 2014

Ms. Susan Young
Power Tool Institute, Inc.
1300 Sumner Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115

Dear Ms. Young:

Thank you for your letter of August 22, 2014, summarizing the Power Tool Institute's (PTI) response to CPSC staff's statement and memorandum regarding "Addendum to 'Survey of Injuries Involving Stationary Saws: Table and Bench Saws, 2007-2008': Evaluation of Response Integrity and Resulting Estimates for Types of Saws and Types of Drives" (the Addendum).¹

PTI outlined its objections to the Addendum and requested that CPSC staff withdraw the Addendum. After careful consideration of PTI's comments, staff stands by the conclusions in the Addendum and declines PTI's request to withdraw the Addendum.

Staff is currently conducting a National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) special study to obtain information about the type of table saws involved in incidents, along with other characteristics about the incidents, saws, and victims, in emergency department-treated injuries related to table saws. The special study began in July 2014.

Staff is committed to working with the voluntary standards and industry organizations to identify and implement effective solutions to reduce the estimated 33,200 average annual emergency room-treated injuries associated with table saws.² Given the prevalence of these injuries, many of which lead to amputations of the hand or fingers, we encourage PTI and your members to continue working with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) to develop performance requirements to reduce blade contact injuries on table saws.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caroleene Paul".

Caroleene Paul

¹ The comments in this letter are those of CPSC staff and have not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the views of, the Commission.

² Estimated average annual injuries are based on data from the CPSC NEISS in the years 2009 through 2013 for table saws (product code 0841).