



September 30, 2022

Joe Musso
Underwriter Laboratories Inc.
333 Pfingsten Road
Northbrook, IL 60062

Dear Mr. Musso:

In a letter dated September 20, 2021, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff requested that UL consider the available incident data on table saw injuries to evaluate the effectiveness of the latest revisions (related to riving knives and blade guards) to the voluntary standard for table saws in reducing blade-contact injuries.¹ Specifically, staff's analysis of blade-contact injuries, amputations, hospitalizations, and finger/hand injuries that were reported through the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) showed no discernible change in the number of injuries or risk of injury associated with blade contact related to table saws from 2004 to 2018. This includes the 2004 to 2009 timespan before the table saws were manufactured with the new riving knife and modular blade guard requirements and the 2010 to 2018 timespan after the new requirements became effective on all table saws. If the latest revision of the voluntary standard was impacting the number or severity of injuries, staff would expect a steady decrease in the number of injuries or severity of injuries as the proportion of compliant table saws increased. This was not observed in the trend analyses conducted by staff.

CPSC staff also shared two online tools to query incident data that are available on CPSC's website, and we encouraged UL to analyze the tools to evaluate the effectiveness of the latest revisions to the voluntary standard for table saws in reducing blade-contact injuries and to take steps to reduce the risk.

- 1) The National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) tool:
[CPSC NEISS On-Line Query System | CPSC.gov](#)
- 2) The Clearinghouse Online Query Tool:
[CPSC Clearinghouse On-Line Query System | CPSC.gov](#)

CPSC staff reiterates our encouragement of UL to analyze the table saw incident data to evaluate the effectiveness of the current voluntary standard for table saws in reducing blade-contact injuries and to consider if more stringent requirements are necessary to reduce the risk

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

of injury.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Caroleene Paul

Caroleene Paul
Director, Division of Mechanical and Combustion Engineering
Directorate of Engineering Sciences

cc: Jacqueline Campbell, CPSC Voluntary Standards Coordinator