

# **EPSE Safety Alert**

### **Hoverboard Safety Alert**

Since fall 2015, CPSC has led the way in warning the public about the dangers posed by hoverboards. CPSC is aware of more than 250 self-balancing scooter/hoverboard incidents related to fires or overheating. In March 2017, a 2-year-old girl and a 10-year-old girl died in a house fire ignited by a hoverboard in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In addition, CPSC has reports of 13 burn injuries, three smoke inhalation injuries and more than \$4 million in property damage related to hoverboards.

### CPSC recommends that consumers, who own or use hoverboards, take these steps to reduce the risk of fire:

- Use only chargers supplied with the hoverboard.
- Only charge a hoverboard when you are there to watch it. Do not charge unattended, especially overnight.
- Keep away from flammable items while charging or even storing your hoverboard.



- Check for recalls. Go to: <u>www.CPSC.gov</u> to see if the hoverboard has been recalled. Stop using a recalled hoverboard immediately and contact the manufacturer for the remedy.
- Have working smoke alarms and fire extinguishers on every level of your home, outside sleeping areas and inside each bedroom.
- Report incidents involving hoverboards overheating, smoking, or fire to CPSC at <u>www.Saferproducts.gov</u>.
- Hoverboards should be compliant with the UL 2272 safety standard. However, even UL 2272 compliance cannot guarantee that a hoverboard will not overheat or catch fire.

#### How can you tell if your hoverboard is UL 2272 compliant?

• Look for a certification mark for self-balancing scooters or personal e-Mobility on the front of the packaging and the holographic certification label with the Enhanced Mark on the bottom of the product. These labels are your indication that you have a genuine compliant product. The following example is one of a UL certification label:



# **GPSC Safety Alert**



- If you bought your hoverboard before January 29, 2016 then your hoverboard is not UL 2272 compliant.
- Buy from a reputable source. If the price seems significantly lower than other hoverboards, the unit may not be UL 2272 compliant.
- Never purchase a hoverboard from a kiosk, a secondhand seller, or an online retailer without proof that the hoverboard is compliant with the UL 2272 safety standard.
- Many sellers/retailers claim to have UL-compliant battery packs, chargers or other components, but this does not mean they are UL 2272 compliant. UL 2272 covers the entire hoverboard unit, not just individual parts.
- If you are still unsure if the hoverboard is UL 2272 compliant, ask questions. Ask the seller/retailer to provide you with documentation of compliance with UL 2272 for the product.

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