



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
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Mr. Daniel J. Mustico  
Vice President, Government & Market Affairs  
Outdoor Power Equipment Institute, Inc.  
1605 King Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Subject: Riding Mowers

Dear Mr. Mustico:

Staff of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)<sup>1</sup> is concerned with riding mower hazards related to runover, backover, and rollover incidents. CPSC staff has reviewed incidents that occurred over the past 10 years to identify the relevant scenarios and hazard patterns associated with riding mowers.

In a preliminary review, staff identified almost 200 runover/backover incidents and more than 500 rollover incidents that were reported from 2011 to 2021. This preliminary review indicates that these hazards continue to contribute to a significant number of traumatic injuries and deaths, including to children. Common injuries result from blade lacerations and blunt force impact. The types of mower models involve conventional tractor-style mowers and zero-turn-radius mowers. Staff is in the process of a more thorough review of the data, and will share the more detailed analysis and incident reports with OPEI when completed.

In addition, staff wanted to note that CPSC's website offers two online tools for the public to query incident data (see Appendix). Staff encourages OPEI Lawn Mower Committee (B71.1), which oversees all activities associated with the development and maintenance of the ANSI/OPEI B71.1 standard for riding mowers, to use the online query tools to evaluate the hazards associated with riding mowers, in particular, runover, backover, and rollover incidents.

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

Mr. Daniel Mustico

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Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Andrew Newens

cc: Greg Knott, Vice President, Standards and Regulatory Affairs, OPEI  
Jacqueline Campbell, CPSC Voluntary Standards Coordinator

Appendix

CPSC's website offers two online tools for the public to query incident data:

- 1) The National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) tool:

[CPSC NEISS On-Line Query System | CPSC.gov](#)

The CPSC operates a statistically valid injury surveillance system known as the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS). NEISS data from the most recent 20 years are available online and the NEISS Query Builder can be used to view and download national product injury estimates based on customized search criteria.

- 2) The Clearinghouse Online Query Tool:

[CPSC Clearinghouse On-Line Query System | CPSC.gov](#)

As a supplement to the NEISS query tool on the CPSC website, the Clearinghouse Data tool allows searches of publicly-available non-NEISS data that are collected by CPSC. This includes: death certificates, medical examiner and coroner reports, injury reports from news sources or the CPSC's SaferProducts.gov site, and other news services.