



**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: 978-367-9122  
Email: cpaul@cpsc.gov

June 27, 2014

Mr. John Stimitz  
UL LLC  
1285 Walt Whitman Road  
Melville, NY 11747-3081

Dear Mr. Stimitz:

On April 17, 2014, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff received a proposal on changes to the Table Saw section of the *Standard for Stationary and Fixed Electric Tools*, UL987, for preliminary review and comment.<sup>1</sup> The proposed changes include new requirements for an active injury mitigation system (AIMS) to mitigate injury from a rotating table saw blade. The proposal specifies a surrogate test finger (STF) and performance requirements for the table saw when the STF contacts the blade at three different approach rates.

Staff has reviewed the proposed requirements and supports this preliminary effort to increase the safety of table saws. The proposal states that the next step in the process is the standards technical panels (STP) ballot and stakeholder review process. Staff strongly encourages UL to bring the proposed requirements to the STP in a timely manner and looks forward to participating in the STP meetings and commenting on the ballot. Staff is committed to working with UL to identify and implement effective solutions to reduce the estimated 33,200 average annual emergency room-treated injuries associated with table saws.<sup>2</sup>

Thank you for this opportunity to review and comment on the preliminary proposal. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caroleene Paul", is written below the "Sincerely," text.

---

<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.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated average annual injuries are based on data from the CPSC National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) in the years 2009 through 2013 for table saws (product code 0841).

cc: Colin Church, CPSC Voluntary Standards Coordinator