

## **NEWS from CPSC**



## **U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission**

Office of Information and Public Affairs

Washington, DC 20207

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 2, 2010 Release # 10-149 Firm's Recall Hotline: (866) 793-4270 CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772 CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

## Risk of Strangulation Prompts Recall to Repair Roman Shades by Lutron Electronics

Lutron Electronics has added its name to the retailers joining the voluntary recall announced in <a href="December 2009">December 2009</a> of ALL Roman shades and roll-up blinds

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Name of Product: Lutron Shading Solutions Roman Shades

Units: About 5,000

Distributor: Lutron Electronics Co. Inc., of Coopersburg, Pa.

Manufacturer: Virginia Iron and Metal Company Inc. (VIMCO), of Ashland, Va.

**Hazard:** Strangulations can occur when a child places his/her neck between the exposed inner cord and the fabric on the backside of the blind or when a child pulls the cord out and wraps it around his/her neck. Also, in manual Roman shades, strangulations can also occur if the shade's looped bead chain is not attached to the wall or to the floor and a child's neck becomes entangled on the free-standing loop.

**Incidents/Injuries:** None reported.

**Description:** This recall involves all custom-ordered made-to-measure motorized and manual Lutron Shading Solutions Roman shades. The shades were sold in a variety of colors, fabrics, and sizes. Nearly all shades were professionally installed. "Lutron Shading Solutions" or "Lutron Shading Solutions by VIMCO" is printed on the packaging.

**Sold at:** Specialty dealers and Expo Design Centers nationwide from January 2000 through August 2009 for between \$120 and \$4,500 per shade.

Manufactured in: United States

**Remedy:** Consumers should immediately stop using the Roman shades and contact Lutron Electronics to coordinate the removal, repair, and reinstallation of the shades. Consumers with manual Roman shades should also immediately check if the tension device is attached to the looped operating cord and installed into the wall or floor. If not attached, consumers should contact Lutron Electronics to receive a free repair kit. If the tension device is attached but not installed, consumers should immediately install the device into the wall or floor. If the

consumer has difficulty installing the tension device, contact Lutron for further instructions.

**Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact Lutron toll-free at (866) 793-4270 anytime, or visit the firm's Web site at <a href="https://www.lutron.com/CERUSromans">www.lutron.com/CERUSromans</a>



Rear view of motorized Roman shade



Front view of manual Roman shade



**Note:** Examine all shades and blinds in your home. Make sure there are no accessible cords on the front, side, or back of the product. CPSC recommends the use of cordless window coverings in all homes where children live or visit.

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CPSC is still interested in receiving incident or injury reports that are either directly related to this product recall or involve a different hazard with the same product. Please tell us about it by visiting <a href="https://www.cpsc.gov/cgibin/incident.aspx">https://www.cpsc.gov/cgibin/incident.aspx</a>

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from thousands of types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. The CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard. The CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products - such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals - contributed significantly to the decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.

To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's Hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (301) 595-7054. To join a CPSC e-mail subscription list, please go to <a href="https://www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx">https://www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx</a>. Consumers can obtain recall and general safety information by logging on to CPSC's Web site at <a href="https://www.cpsc.gov">www.cpsc.gov</a>.

