

**Connecticut Department of Public Health**  
410 Capitol Avenue, MS#51 LED  
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

## **Fax Cover Sheet**

**DATE:** February 10, 2006

**TIME:**

**TO:** Directors of Health  
Chief Sanitarians  
Lead Contacts  
Lead Consultant Contractors

**PHONE:**  
**FAX:**

**FROM:** Alan J. Buzzetti, RS  
Supervising Environmental Analyst

**PHONE:** (860) 509-7299  
**FAX:** (860) 509-7295

**RE:** Lead in Children's Jewelry – Health Alert

**cc:** LPPCP Staff, Suzanne Blancaflor

**Number of pages including cover sheet:** 6

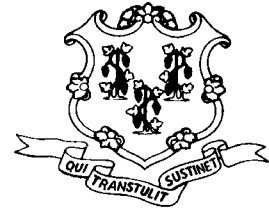
### **Message:**

Please see the enclosed information regarding lead in children's jewelry. Last year the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued recalls on children's necklace and earring sets (9/22/05) and metal necklaces and zipper pulls (11/30/05). Those recalls are attached.

Recently, the Center for Environmental Health (CEH) announced a legal settlement whereby several major retailers in the United States have agreed to eliminate lead exposure risks from jewelry marketed to children and adults. A summary of that agreement is attached. Although the settlement will only be legally binding in California, the effect will be felt throughout the U.S. It is unlikely that retailers will market different product lines, particularly since California is such a major market.

For more information, you may go to the CEH website at <http://www.cehca.org/jewelry.htm>. You may also obtain additional information from the CPSC website, <http://www.cpsc.gov>.

You may contact the Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Program staff at (860) 509-7299 should you have any questions.



# Health Alert

February 10, 2006

Connecticut Department of Public Health  
Contacts: Alan Buzzetti. (860) 509-7299

## Major Retailers Agree to Eliminate Lead Risks from Children's Jewelry

The Center for Environmental Health (CEH) announced on January 27, 2006 that most major retailers of children's jewelry have agreed to eliminate lead exposure risks from jewelry that marketed to children and adults. Among the retailers are Target, Sears, Toys R Us, Kmart, Disney, and Nordstroms. A comprehensive list of retailers can be found at <http://www.cehca.org/jewelry.htm>. The settlement was negotiated over the past 18 months as a result of legal action that was initiated by CEH in 2003.

The legal settlement calls for stricter standards for lead levels in all jewelry components and requires that lead levels in children's jewelry be reduced to trace amounts. Specifically, metal components in and coatings on children's jewelry must contain less than 600 parts per million (ppm) of lead, and plastic (PVC) components can contain no more than 200 ppm of lead.

Under this settlement, jewelry retailers are required to inform their suppliers of the new requirements within 90 days after the settlement has been entered by the court. Once they are informed, suppliers are required to eliminate or significantly reduce lead in jewelry as soon as possible. The aggregate sum of the settlement is \$1.875 million, with each of the companies agreeing to pay \$25,000. At this time Wal-Mart, the nation's largest retailer, has not agreed to reformulate the jewelry they sell. Other companies that are not party to the settlement are Jordache, Cornerstone Apparel (Papaya stores), the Gerson Company, and Royal Items.

Although the settlement will only be legally binding in California, the effect will be felt throughout the U.S. It is unlikely that retailers will market different product lines, particularly since California is such a major market.

For more information contact: Connecticut Department of Public Health, Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Program, 860-509-7299. Further information regarding this settlement and participating companies may be obtained at <http://www.cehca.org/jewelry.htm>.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 22, 2005

Release #05-278

Firm's Recall Hotline: (800) 678-9258

CPSC Consumer Hotline: (800) 638-2772

CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

CPSC, Dollar General Corp. Announce Recall of Costume Jewelry

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

Name of Product: Necklace and Earring Sets

Units: About 455,000

Importer: Dollar General Corp., of Goodlettsville, Tenn.

Hazard: The recalled jewelry contains high levels of lead. Lead is toxic if ingested by young children and can cause adverse health effects.

Incidents/Injuries: None reported.

Description: The flower necklace and earring set features a floral design in four-color variations: yellow, orange, pink and purple. The purse necklace and earring set features a dangling purse charm in black, red, blue, orange, pink or purple. The corded swirl necklace and earring set features a twisted metal swirl pattern hanging from a black, blue or purple cord. The faux amber necklace and earring set features a large faux amber gem cut in a heart or cross shape. The 5-strand bead necklace and earring set were sold in four-color variations: orange, purple, blue and multi-color.

Sold at: Dollar General Stores nationwide from May 2005 through August 2005 for between \$1 and \$3.

Manufactured in: China

Remedy: Consumers should take the recalled jewelry away from children immediately and return to Dollar General stores for a refund.

Consumer Contact: : For additional information, contact Dollar General at (800) 678-9258 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at [www.dollargeneral.com](http://www.dollargeneral.com) To view this recall online, please visit our website at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml05/05278.html>

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 30, 2005  
Release #06-042  
Firm's Recall Hotline: (800) 964-0029  
CPSC Consumer Hotline: (800) 638-2772  
CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

**CPSC, Stravina Operating Co. Announce Recall of Children's Metal Necklaces and Zipper Pulls**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Stravina Operating Co., LLC, of Chatsworth, Calif., is voluntarily recalling about 6 million children's metal necklaces and zipper pulls.

The recalled metal jewelry contains high levels of accessible lead in the metal and/or the paint, posing a serious risk of lead poisoning to young children. Lead is toxic if ingested by children and can cause adverse health effects.

There have been no incidents or injuries reported with the metal necklaces and zipper pulls.

The recalled necklaces are silver-colored with individual names painted in variety of colors. The nameplate on the necklace hangs from a 16-inch black cord. The necklace packages are marked "Personalized Necklace" and "Stravina". UPC Code 0-35203-00039-7 is on the necklace package.

The recalled zipper pulls are silver-colored with individual names that come in various colors. The zipper pull hangs from a silver-colored metal clip designed to attach to a backpack, a key ring, and zippers on clothing. Printed on the zipper pull's packaging is "Personalized Zipper Pull," "Great for Backpacks and Key rings too" and "Stravina." UPC Code 0-35203-00038-0 is written on the package.

The recalled metal necklaces and zipper pulls were sold at discount, toy, party, grocery and drug stores from March 2002 through September 2005 for between \$2 and \$4. All of the jewelry was manufactured in China.

Consumers should immediately take this metal jewelry away from children and contact Stravina for a free replacement product at (800) 964-0029 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. PT Monday through Friday. Consumers can also visit the firm's Web site at [www.stravina.com](http://www.stravina.com) for more information.



*Personalized*  
**Necklace**



 **STRAVINA™**


Ages 5+

Personalized  
**Zipper  
Pull**



Great for  
Backpacks  
and  
Keyrings  
too!



 **STRAVINA™**