

LOSS CONTROL HAZARD ALERT

Defective Air Movers - Fire Hazard

On March 6, 2014, the Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) published a recall for approximately 2,800 air movers used to dry floors in commercial and residential buildings. The air blower's thermal switch can fail and allow the motor to overheat, posing a potential fire hazard.

These blowers are frequently used in buildings to dry wood floors and carpeting following a water leak or flooding. They are often left running unattended after normal business hours and overnight. This type of operation makes this recall particularly important, since a potential fire may go undetected for a long period of time.

Thus far, eight incidents resulting from the defect have been reported, including four fires. One of these fires resulted in approximately \$225,000 of property damage.

Policyholders should stop using the recalled air movers immediately. The CPSC states: "Consumers should stop using this product unless otherwise instructed. It is illegal to resell or attempt to resell a recalled consumer product."

The air movers were sold by Packaging Tape, Inc. of Wausau, WI and online at <u>CleanFreak.com</u>, <u>AirMovers.com</u>, <u>FloorBuffers.com</u>, and <u>PTIPackaging.com</u>. They were sold from February 2008 through December 2010 for approximately \$145. The units were manufactured in China and imported by OPS America of Loretto, MN.

The air mover's molded plastic housing measures approximately 18" high by 18" deep by 16.5" wide and has a 25' yellow electrical cord. They have an on/off switch located on the left side of the front of the unit. Models OPS-2500-CF and OPS-2500-CFR are black and model OPS-2200Y-CF is yellow. The model number is available on the sales invoice. The CleanFreak.com logo and phone number are printed on a white label with green lettering on the front of the unit and on a silver or yellow label on the back of the unit. Click here to see the CPSC Recall Number: 14-125.

Policyholders who own, rent, or otherwise use these air movers should contact Packaging Tape, Inc. toll-free at (855) 800-1091 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or CleanFreak.com and click on the Recall Alert button for more information.

Everest Loss Control offers services to help you in your loss prevention efforts. If you would like more information about these services, www.everestregroup.com.







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