



DEFECT & INVESTIGATION CENTRE

FOR ACTION BY:

Chief Executive of each HSS Trust
General Manager/Chief Executive of each HSS Board
General Manager/Chief Executive of each Agency

Stoney Road Dundonald Belfast
Northern Ireland BT16 1US

Telephone 028 90 523714
Facsimile 028 90 523900
GTN Code 440

HN(NI) 2000/31

Date: 7 November 2000

Product	:	BATTERY CHARGERS BRANDED AS CMP 2000, LOMAX OR SUNRISE – MODELS 24V 4A, 24V 6A, 24V 7A, 12V 6A
Manufacturer/ Supplier	:	MANUFACTURED BY CMP BATTERIES LTD, TRADING AS “CMP BATTERIES STANDBY DIVISION”. SUPPLIED DIRECTLY BY CMP AND BY OTHER COMPANIES FOR USE WITH THEIR PRODUCTS.
Problem	:	DURING NORMAL OPERATION, THE ABOVE TYPES OF BATTERY CHARGER HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO OVERHEAT DUE TO A FAILURE ON THE INTERNAL CIRCUIT BOARD. THIS OVERHEATING CAN INITIALLY CAUSE SMOKING SUBSEQUENTLY LEADING TO FIRE WITHIN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME
Action	:	WITHDRAW FROM USE

HAZARD

1. ATTENTION CHIEF EXECUTIVES/GENERAL MANAGERS

This notice should be brought to the immediate attention of all who need to know, or be aware of it including those listed below, in accordance with local procedures, and immediate action should be taken as detailed aside:

- Trust Wheelchair Services Managers
- Rehabilitation Engineers (Wheelchairs)
- Occupational Therapists (involved in wheelchair provision)
- Physiotherapists (involved in wheelchair provision)
- Nursing Staff
- Wheelchair Repair Services
- Wheelchair Reconditioning Services
- Community & Social Services Staff
- Hospices
- Day Care Services for Elderly or Disabled People
- Loan Store Managers
- Supplies Officers
- Safety Liaison Officers
- Risk Managers

Boards/Trusts should ensure that if appropriate, this information is passed to **ALL** persons having the responsibility for premises registered under “THE REGISTERED HOMES (NI) ORDER 1992”.



An Executive Agency of the Department of Health and Social Services and Public Safety

2. IMMEDIATE ACTION

Trace all affected battery chargers, which are identifiable by their purple plastic casing and labelled as 24V 4A, 24V 6A, 24V 7A and 12V 6A, and withdraw them from use.

Contact CMP to obtain replacement units which they will supply free of charge (see contact reference under 4. Enquiries).

3. BACKGROUND

The Department have received reports of two fires with CMP 2000 24V 6A battery chargers. Investigation has established that the problem arises within the circuit board inside the charger. During the normal charging process the charger overheats and can catch fire. The problem is magnified by the poor fire retardancy of the plastic casing.

Other models ie 24V 4A, 24V 7A, 12V 6A also contain the same circuit board and have similar potential for overheating and fire.

These chargers were first made available in February 2000 and are easily distinguished by their purple coloured plastic casing. The majority have been supplied to charge powered wheelchairs manufactured by Lomax Mobility Ltd, Sunrise Medical Ltd, Remploy Healthcare Ltd and Newton Products Ltd. A number have also been supplied to manufacturers or repairers to charge various other types of equipment.

In addition to the units supplied with the 'CMP 2000' brand name CMP have also produced "own branded" versions of the charger for Lomax Mobility Ltd and Sunrise Medical Ltd. All have the same distinctive purple coloured plastic casing and should be recalled. These chargers all have a label on their base, which clearly specifies the model type.

CMP are contacting wheelchair manufacturers and direct customers through private notices and a national press release. They are able to trace all chargers to their point of delivery. For private sales the traceability to end-users is through agents' or suppliers' records. Where these chargers have then been supplied into the health service, the health service records are the only direct source of traceability to the end user.

CMP have agreed to replace all affected chargers, including "own branded" versions, with units either to an earlier metal case design or with updated circuitry, including a thermal trip, and a plastic case in a new colour with a higher level of flame retardancy. CMP will provide units free of charge and will reimburse reasonable costs incurred during the replacement exercise. CMP should be contacted to arrange replacement units and agree costs.

4. ENQUIRIES

Enquiries to CMP should be addressed to:

Richard Conlon
CMP Batteries
Salford Road
Over Hulton
Bolton BL5 1DD
Tel: 0800 0852876

Enquiries to Lomax Mobility Ltd should be addressed to:

M T Forbes
Lomax Mobility Ltd
The Chalmers Building
Charles Bowman Avenue
Dundee
DD4 9UB
Tel: 01382 503000
Fax: 01382 503550

Enquiries to Sunrise Medical Ltd should be addressed to:

Sunrise Medical Ltd
Hotline
High Street
Wollaston
West Midlands

Tel: 01384 446848

Enquiries regarding this notice should be addressed as follows:

NORTHERN IRELAND DEFECT & INVESTIGATION CENTRE (NIDIC)
Health Estates
Estate Policy
Stoney Road
Dundonald
Belfast BT16 1US *marked for the attention of Mr Brian Godfrey*

Tel: 028 90 523714

Fax: 028 90 523900

Email: brian.godfrey@dhsspsni.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

BRIAN GODFREY
Defect Centre Manager

HOW TO REPORT DEFECTS

Professional Estate Letter PEL(93)36 issued by Estate Services Directorate, on 27th July 1994 advises Health and Social Services Boards, HSS Trusts and agencies how to notify HPSS about accidents with and defects in medicinal products, buildings and plant and other medical and non medical equipment and supplies.



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HAZARD

Title:

**BATTERY CHARGERS BRANDED AS CMP 2000, LOMAX
OR SUNRISE – MODELS 24V 4A, 24V 6A, 24V 7A, 12V 6A**

ACTION BY:

(A) BOARD/TRUST

Address/Address Stamp

This document was forwarded to the relevant Department/Personnel for action on _____ (date)

(B) RECIPIENT [Please return to the Issuing Authority **at (A) above**, after completed action]

Receipt of the document is acknowledged and appropriate action completed on _____ (date)

Signature _____ Position

Name (please print)

Address

(C) COMMENTS ON ACTION TAKEN