

SN (NI) 2002/20

DATE: 21 May 2002

**For Attention and Action by:
Chief Executive of each HSS Trust
General Manager/Chief Executive of each HSS Board
Chief Executive of each Agency**



**HEALTH ESTATES
ESTATE POLICY**

**NORTHERN
IRELAND
ADVERSE
INCIDENT
CENTRE**

TITLE:

**SMITH & NEPHEW HOMECRAFT LTD,
LIFTMASTER 160 AND 190 HOISTS**

MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER

Smith & Nephew Homecraft Ltd

PROBLEM

Risk of injury from detachment of the spreader bar of Liftmaster 160 and 190 models, supplied between November 1997 and June 1999.

In 1999, Smith & Nephew Homecraft Ltd initiated a recall but a number of the hoists were not upgraded.

DISTRIBUTION

This notice should be brought to the attention of all who need to know or be aware of it, including those listed below, in accordance with local procedures. This will include:

- Liaison Officers
- Risk Managers
- Health & Safety Officers/Advisors
- Device Managers
- Estates Managers
- Nurse Directors
- Medical, Nursing and Care Staff
- Supplies Staff
- General Medical Practitioners
- Health Visitors
- Practice Nurses
- Occupational Therapists
- Professions Allied to Medicine
- Social Care Staff
- Community Care Staff
- Hospices
- Residential and Nursing Homes
- Education and Library Boards

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

ACTION

- All users of Liftmaster 160 and 190 hoists should check the serial number of the boom. If the serial number of the boom is between SN4000001 and SN4001999 the hoist should be withdrawn from use and Smith & Nephew Homecraft Ltd contacted.
- The serial numbers for the new design of boom are SN4004000 and above. These booms also have an alternative attachment mechanism as shown in the appendix, which hooks onto a horizontal pin. If the boom is the new design there is no need for any further action.

Note: The serial number is located on the underside of the mounting plate on the boom, (refer to the Appendix). It should not be confused with the serial number on the main body of the hoist.

SAFETY

NOTICE

BACKGROUND

NIAIC has been informed by the Medical Devices Agency (MDA) that they have recently received reports of two incidents involving the detachment of the spreader bar on Liftmaster 160 and 190 models. Although Smith & Nephew Homecraft Ltd initiated a recall for old design booms in 1999, some of these booms are still being used.

The Appendix shows a picture of the old design boom. The mounting plate on this boom is smaller than the new design. It also locates on two vertical pins. The new design boom (shown in the Appendix) has a chunkier mounting plate and locates onto a horizontal pin.

Smith and Nephew Homecraft Ltd issued a warning to their customers in March 2002. The manufacturer will arrange free removal and free replacement of old design booms. A reward of Smith & Nephew Homecraft vouchers worth £50 is being offered for each old design boom returned. Contact the manufacturer for further information.

ENQUIRIES

Enquires to the manufacturer should be addressed to:

Emma Buxton or Nikki Brewin
Smith & Nephew Rehabilitation
PO box 5665
Kirkby in Ashfield
Nottinghamshire
NG17 7QX

Tel: 01623 721000
Fax: 01623 755585

Enquires to the NIAIC should quote the reference number SN(NI) 2002/20 and be addressed to:

Northern Ireland Adverse Incident Centre (NIAIC)
Health Estates
Estate Policy Directorate
Stoney Road
Dundonald
Belfast BT16 1US
Marked for the attention of Mr Brian Godfrey

Tel: 02890 523714
Fax: 02890 523900
Email: brian.godfrey@dhsspsni.gov.uk

Brian Godfrey
NIAIC Manager

HOW TO REPORT ADVERSE INCIDENTS

Adverse Incidents relating to medical devices, non-medical equipment, plant and buildings should be reported to NIAIC as soon as possible. Advice on how to report is given in Safety Notice SN (NI) 2002/01. If you are in doubt about how to report incidents, please speak to your liaison officer or contact NIAIC using the telephone number provided. Adverse Incident reporting forms and an on-line reporting facility are available on the NIAIC website at www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/niaic

*Heath Estates is an Executive Agency of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety
Áisíneacht Feidhmeannach don Roinn Sláinte. Serbhísí Sóisialta agus Sábháilteacht Phoiblí*



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SAFETY

NOTICE

APPENDIX



Homecraft
An AbilityOne Company
Shelley Close
Lowmoor Road Industrial Estate
Kirkby-in-Ashfield
Nottinghamshire NG17 7ET
United Kingdom

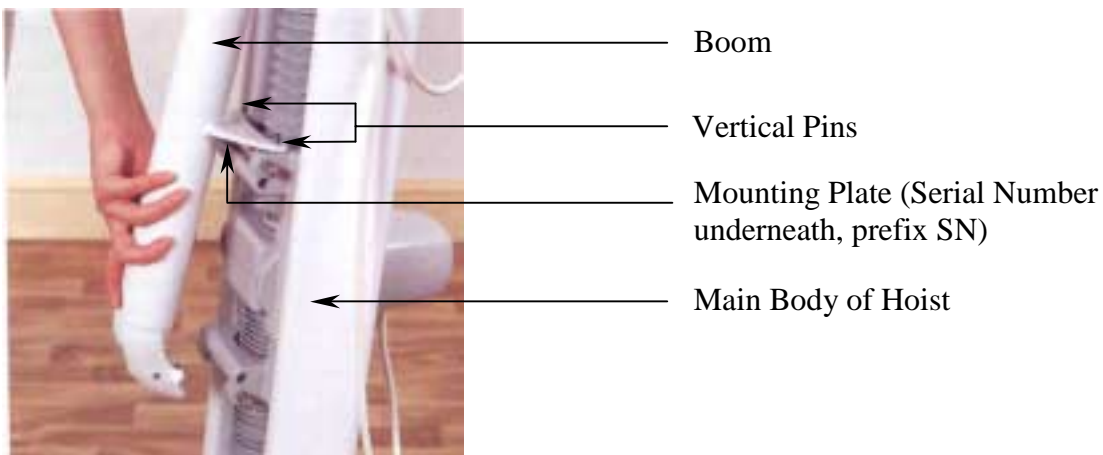


Figure 1: Old design boom

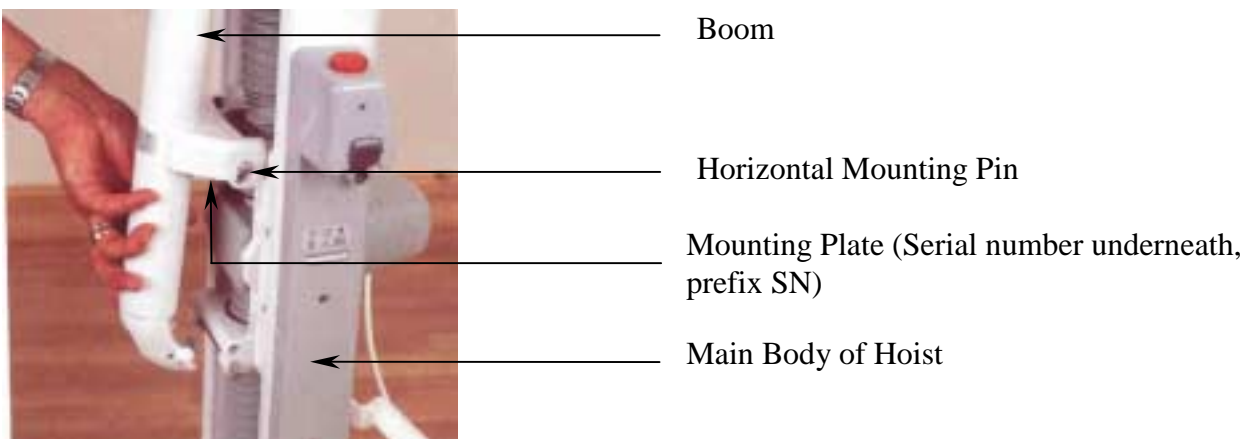


Figure 2: New design boom