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ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Washington, DC 20515-6115

JOHN D. DINGELL, MICHIGAN
CHAIRMAN

August 22, 2007

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DENNIS B. FITZGIBBONS, CHIEF OF STAFF
GREGG A. ROTHSCHILD, CHIEF COUNSEL

Mr. Edward B. Kovens
President
A & A Global Industries, Inc.
P.O. Box 5618
Timonium, MD 21093

Dear Mr. Kovens:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

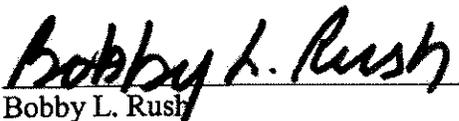
The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on April 3, 2007. The products, children's "Groovy Grabber" bracelets, contained lead paint that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. Previously, in July 2004 the CPSC issued a recall for other children's jewelry imported by your company. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the millions of pieces of jewelry recalled by the CPSC in April 2007 and previously in July 2004, please provide detailed information on any other children's products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled jewelry and any other products, if available.
3. Please provide the names and locations of the facility and company in China that manufactured the Groovy Grabber bracelets as well as the names and locations of the companies and facilities in India that manufactured the children's jewelry that was subject to the 2004 recall.

4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese, Indian, or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported jewelry or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead content safety standards?
6. In its July 2004 recall announcement, the CPSC stated that the firms involved, including your firm, had "advised the Commission that they had stopped importing toy jewelry with lead and [were] committed to working with the CPSC staff on eliminating hazardous levels of lead in future importations of toy jewelry." Please outline steps taken by your company after the 2004 recall to prevent further importation of lead-tainted children's jewelry, and explain why such steps were not successful to prevent a further importation.
7. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported jewelry that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on April, 3 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the Groovy Grabber bracelets?
8. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the Groovy Grabber bracelets. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
9. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including the number and nature of consumer inquiries that your company has received.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

Mr. Edward B. Kovens
Page 3

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

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MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

Cmdr. Paul W. Essex
Army and Air Force Exchange Service
3911 S. Walton Walker Blvd.
Dallas, TX 75236-1598

Dear Commander Essex:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on May 23, 2007. The products, the "Invincibles Transport Converters Toy Sets," contained lead paint that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 3,000 Invincibles Transport Converters Toy Sets recalled by the CPSC in May, please provide detailed information on any toys or other products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled toys and children's products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the Invincibles Transport Converters Toy Sets.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning

the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

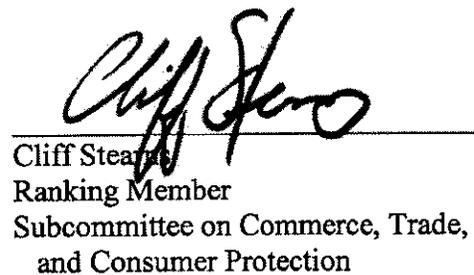
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported toys or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead level safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead paint on the imported Invincibles Transport Converters Toy Sets Toys that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on May 23, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the Invincibles Transport Converters Toy Sets?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the Invincibles Transport Converters Toy Sets. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many Invincibles Transport Converters Toy Sets have been returned for a refund.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

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MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

Mr. Danny Paszkiewicz
Chief Executive Officer
Cardinal Distributing Co.
6801 Quad Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21237

Dear Mr. Paszkiewicz:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued recalls for some of your company's products on April 17, 2007, and again on May 15, 2007. The children's products -- charm bracelets, sportswear necklaces, and rings -- contained lead or lead paint that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. Previously, in July 2004, the CPSC issued a recall for other children's jewelry imported by your company. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the 1.2 million pieces of children's jewelry recalled by the CPSC in April and May 2007, as well as the jewelry recalled in July 2004, please provide detailed information on any other children's products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead or lead paint in the recalled jewelry and any other products, if available.
3. Please provide the names and locations of the companies and manufacturing facilities in China, India, and other foreign countries that manufactured the jewelry recalled in 2004 and 2007.

4. Are there provisions in your agreements with overseas or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported jewelry or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead content safety standards?
6. In its July 2004 recall announcement, the CPSC stated that the firms involved, including your firm, had "advised the Commission that they had stopped importing toy jewelry with lead and [were] committed to working with the CPSC staff on eliminating hazardous levels of lead in future importations of toy jewelry." Please outline steps taken by your company after the 2004 recall to prevent further importation of lead-tainted children's jewelry, and explain why such steps were not successful to prevent such a further importation.
7. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported jewelry that led to the recall announcements by the CPSC in April and May of 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the jewelry?
8. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the jewelry. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
9. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including the number and nature of consumer inquiries that your company has received.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade
and Consumer Protection

Mr. Danny Paszkiewicz
Page 3

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
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The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
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MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

Mr. Gene Kahn
Chief Executive Officer
Claire's Boutiques, Inc.
2400 W. Central Road
Hoffman Estates, IL 60192

Dear Mr. Kahn:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on March 15, 2007. The products, children's necklaces, contained lead that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 58,000 pieces of jewelry recalled by the CPSC in March, please provide detailed information on any other children's products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled jewelry and any other products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the children's necklaces.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

Mr. Gene Khan

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5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported jewelry or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead content safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported jewelry that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on March 15, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the children's necklaces?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the children's necklaces. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many pieces of jewelry have been returned for a replacement product, and the number and nature of consumer inquiries that your company has received.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,


Bobby L. Rush

Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection


Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
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The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
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MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

Mr. Felix Porcaro
Chief Executive Officer
Crimzon Rose Accessories
4 Warren Avenue
North Providence, RI 02911

Dear Mr. Porcaro:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on February 23, 2007. The products, children's "Kidsite" necklace and earring sets, contained lead that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 6,000 pieces of jewelry recalled by the CPSC in February, please provide detailed information on any other children's products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled jewelry and any other products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the children's "Kidsite" necklace and earring sets.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

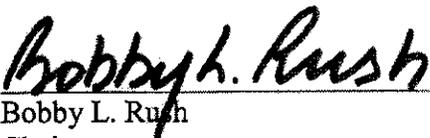
Mr. Felix Porcaro

Page 2

5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported jewelry or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead content safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported jewelry that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on February 23, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the children's "Kidsite" necklace and earring sets?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the children's "Kidsite" necklace and earring sets. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many pieces of jewelry have been returned for an alternate jewelry set, and the number and nature of consumer inquiries that your company has received.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg of the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

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MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

August 22, 2007

Mr. Ron Elliot
Chief Executive Officer
Discount School Supply
2 Lower Ragsdale Drive Suite 125
Monterey, CA 93940

Dear Mr. Elliot:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including writing legislation, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on March 7, 2007. The products, the "Elite 5-in-1 Easels," contained lead paint that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 2,500 Elite 5-in-1 Easels recalled by the CPSC in March, please provide detailed information on any toys or other products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled toys and products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the Elite 5-in-1 Easels.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning

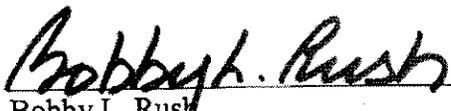
Mr. Ron Elliot
Page 2

the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported toys or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead level safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead paint on the imported items that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on March 7, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the Elite 5-in-1 Easels?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the Elite 5-in-1 Easels. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many Elite 5-in-1 Easels have been returned for a replacement.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rust
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member

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Washington, DC 20515-6115

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August 22, 2007

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GREGG A. ROTHSCHILD, CHIEF COUNSEL

Mr. David Bere
Chief Executive Officer
Dollar General Merchandising, Inc.
100 Mission Ridge
Goodlettsville, TN 37072

Dear Mr. Bere:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on April 3, 2007. The products, metal key chains, contained lead that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 396,000 key chains recalled by the CPSC in April, please provide detailed information on any other children's products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled key chains and any other products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the metal key chains.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

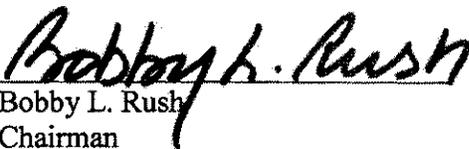
Mr. David Bere

Page 2

5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported key chains or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead content safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported key chains that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on April 3, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the children's metal key chains?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the metal key chains. Did you provide information in a language other than English, especially Spanish? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many pieces of key chains have been returned for a refund or a replacement product, and the number and nature of consumer inquiries that your company has received.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

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August 22, 2007

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MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

Ms. Melinda Meeker
Project Manager
GeoCentral
3210 California Blvd
Napa, CA 94558

Dear Ms. Meeker:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on June 19, 2007. The products, Butterfly Necklaces, contained lead that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 19,000 pieces of jewelry recalled by the CPSC in June, please provide detailed information on any other children's products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled jewelry and any other products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the Butterfly Necklaces.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

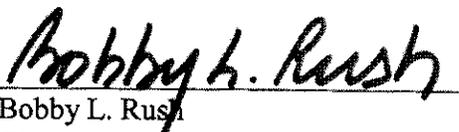
Ms. Melinda Meeker

Page 2

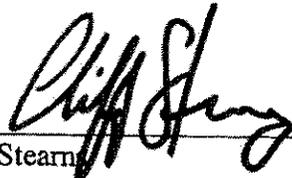
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported jewelry or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead content safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported jewelry that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on June 19, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the Butterfly Necklaces?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the Butterfly Necklaces. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many pieces of jewelry have been returned for a refund, and the number and nature of consumer inquiries that your company has received.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

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August 22, 2007

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Mr. Robert A. Eckert
Chairman and CEO
Mattel Inc.
333 Continental Blvd.
El Segundo, CA 90245-5012

Dear Mr. Eckert:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including writing legislation, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued two recent recalls for your company's products on August 2 and 14, 2007. The products, various figures and toys, contained lead paint that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the millions of figures and toys recalled by the CPSC in August, please provide detailed information on any toys or other products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled toys and products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the figures and toys.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

Mr. Robert A. Eckert
Page 2

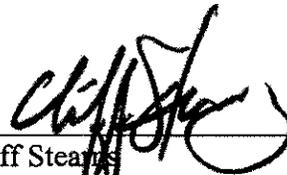
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported toys or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead level safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead paint on the imported items that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC first on August 2, 2007, and then on August 14, 2007? For each recall incident when did you first contact the CPSC about the figures and toys?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the figures and toys. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many toys have been returned for replacement vouchers.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
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MICHAEL C. BURGESS, TEXAS
MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

August 22, 2007

Mr. Steve Frary
Chief Executive Officer
Oriental Trading Company
4206 South 108th Street
Omaha, NE 68137

Dear Mr. Frary:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on May 2, 2007. The products, children's religious fish necklaces, contained lead that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 132,000 pieces of jewelry recalled by the CPSC in May, please provide detailed information on any other children's products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled jewelry and any other products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the children's religious fish necklaces.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

Mr. Steve Frary
Page 2

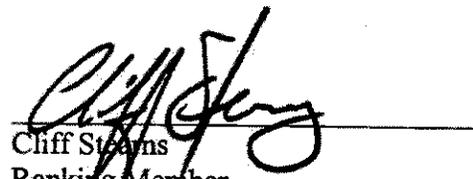
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported jewelry or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead content safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported jewelry that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on May 2, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the children's religious fish necklaces?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the Children's religious fish necklaces. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many refunds and credits have been requested, and the number and nature of consumer inquiries that your company has received.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection


Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

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Washington, DC 20515-6115

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August 22, 2007

Mr. Curt Stoelting
Chief Executive officer
RC2 Corporation
1111 W. 22nd Street, Suite 320
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Dear Mr. Stoelting:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on June 13, 2007. The products, various "Thomas & Friends Wooden Railway Toys," contained lead paint that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 1.5 million Thomas & Friends Wooden Railway Toys recalled by the CPSC in June, please provide detailed information on any toys or other products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled toys and children's products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the Thomas & Friends Wooden Railway Toys.

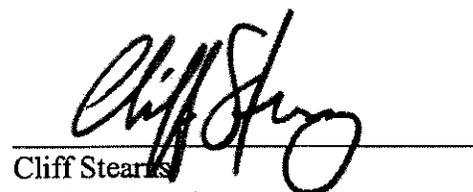
Mr. Curt Stoelting
Page 2

4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported toys or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead level safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead paint on the imported Thomas & Friends Wooden Railway Toys that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on June 13, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the Thomas & Friends Wooden Railway Toys?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the Thomas & Friends Wooden Railway Toys. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many Thomas & Friends Wooden Railway Toys have been returned for a replacement.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,


Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection


Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

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Washington, DC 20515-6115

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August 22, 2007

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DENNIS B. FITZGIBBONS, CHIEF OF STAFF
GREGG A. ROTHSCHILD, CHIEF COUNSEL

Mr. Mike DePaul
Chief Executive Officer
Regents Product Corporation
8999 Palmer Avenue
River Grove, IL 60171-1926

Dear Mr. DePaul:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on March 28, 2007. The products, the "Stuffed Fun Balls," contained lead paint that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 7,200 Stuffed Fun Balls recalled by the CPSC in March, please provide detailed information on any toys or other products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled toys and products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the Stuffed Fun Balls.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

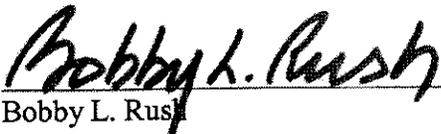
Mr. Mike DePaul

Page 2

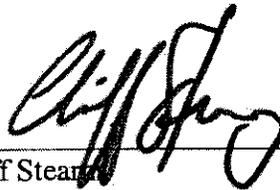
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported toys or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead level safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead paint on the imported Stuffed Fun Balls that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on March 28, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the Stuffed Fun Balls?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the Stuffed Fun Balls. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many Stuffed Fun Balls have been returned for a refund.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

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U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Washington, DC 20515-6115

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MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

Mr. Bogdan Nowak
President
Rhode Island Novelty
5 Industrial Road
Cumberland, RI 02864

Dear Mr. Nowak:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including writing legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on March 15, 2007. The products, Children's Mood Necklaces, contained lead that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 47,000 pieces of jewelry recalled by the CPSC in March, please provide detailed information on any other children's products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled jewelry and any other products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the Children's Mood Necklaces.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards

Mr. Bogdan Nowak

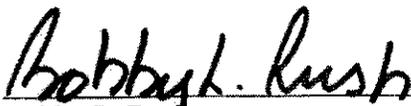
Page 2

in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported jewelry or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead content safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported jewelry that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on March 15, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the Children's Mood Necklaces?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the Children's Mood Necklaces. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many pieces of jewelry have been returned for a replacement, and the number and nature of consumer inquiries that your company has received.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
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The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
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Mr. Steven Shalom
Chief Executive Officer
Shalom International
39 West 37th Street # 7
New York, NY 10018

Dear Mr. Shalom:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on February 7, 2007. The products, Rachael Rose Kidz Rings, contained lead that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 280,000 pieces of jewelry recalled by the CPSC in February, please provide detailed information on any other children's products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled jewelry and any other products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the Rachael Rose Kidz Rings.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

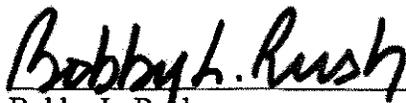
Mr. Steven Shalom

Page 2

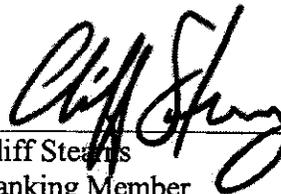
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported jewelry or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead content safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported jewelry that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on February 7, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the Rachael Rose Kidz Rings?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the Rachael Rose Kidz Rings. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many pieces of jewelry have been returned for a refund, and the number and nature of consumer inquiries that your company has received.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



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and Consumer Protection

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Committee on Energy and Commerce
Washington, DC 20515-6115

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CHAIRMAN

August 22, 2007

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Mr. Kevin Dumphy
Spandrel Sales and Marketing, Inc.
1721 W. 10th Place, Suite 3B
Tempe, AZ 85281

Dear Mr. Dumphy:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including writing legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on May 15, 2007. The products, children's necklaces, bracelets and rings, contained lead that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 200,000 pieces of jewelry recalled by the CPSC in May, please provide detailed information on any other children's products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled jewelry and any other products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the recalled children's necklaces, bracelets and rings.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

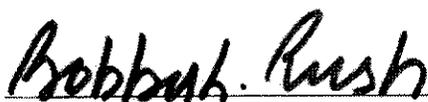
Mr. Kevin Dumphy

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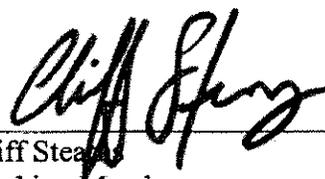
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported jewelry or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead content safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported jewelry that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on May 15, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the children's necklaces, bracelets and rings?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the children's necklaces, bracelets and rings. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including the number and nature of consumer inquiries that your company has received.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

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MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

Mr. Robert J. Ulrich
Chairman and CEO
Target Corporation
1000 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Dear Mr. Ulrich:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on May 2, 2007. The products, the "Anima - Bamboo Collection Games," contained lead paint that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 5,000 Anima - Bamboo Collection Games recalled by the CPSC in May, please provide detailed information on any toys or other products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled toys and products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the games.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning

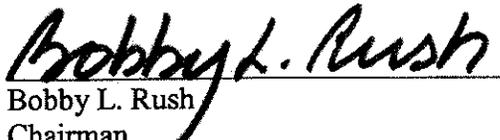
Mr. Robert J. Ulrich
Page 2

the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?

5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported toys or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead level safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead paint on the imported items that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on May 2, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the Anima - Bamboo Collection Games?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the Anima - Bamboo Collection Games. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many games have been returned for a full refund.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,


Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection


Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
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MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

Mr. Robert T. Cocoluto
Chief Executive Officer
The Boyds Collection Ltd.
350 South Street
McSherrystown, PA 17344

Dear Mr. Cocoluto:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for two of your company's products on May 30, 2007. The products, the "Eli's Small Drums," and "Liberty's Large Drums," contained lead paint that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 4,500 toy drums recalled by the CPSC in May, please provide detailed information on any toys or other products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled toys and products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the toy drums.
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the

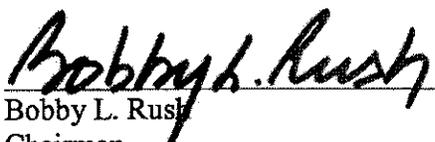
Mr. Robert T. Coccoluto
Page 2

manufacture of the products your company imports?

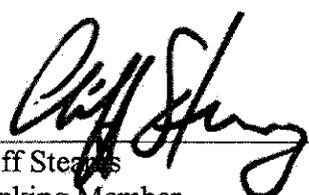
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported toys or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead level safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported toys that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on May 30, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the toy drums?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the toy drums. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many toys have been returned for refunds.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection

cc: The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman
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The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
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MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

August 22, 2007

Mr. Michael W. Rayden
Chairman & CEO
Tween Brands, Inc.
8323 Walton Parkway
New Albany, Ohio 43054

Dear Mr. Rayden:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on May 31, 2007. The products, children's metal jewelry, contained lead that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 103,000 pieces of jewelry recalled by the CPSC in May, please provide detailed information on any other children's products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled jewelry and any other products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the recalled children's metal jewelry.

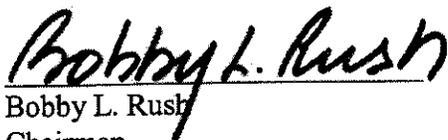
Mr. Michael W. Rayden

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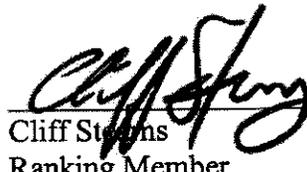
4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported jewelry or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead content safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported jewelry that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on May 31, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the children's metal jewelry?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the children's metal jewelry. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many pieces of jewelry have been returned for a refund and a coupon, and the number and nature of consumer inquiries that your company has received.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
and Consumer Protection



Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
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Mr. Michael W. Rayden

Page 3

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MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

DENNIS B. FITZGIBBONS, CHIEF OF STAFF
GREGG A. ROTHSCILD, CHIEF COUNSEL

Mr. Larry Tesien
Chief Executive Officer
United Imports Inc.
13334 36th Road
Flushing, NY 11354

Dear Mr. Tesien:

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Energy and Commerce plans to hold a hearing in September on how to address the problem of children's products, imported to the United States from China, that contain lead exceeding lawful safety standards. We are concerned that such products have flooded stores across America and pose a health risk to our children. The Subcommittee will explore all avenues, including legislative remedies, to ensure that lead-tainted children's products do not cross our borders.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) issued a recall for some of your company's products on March 13, 2007. The products, Children's Mood Necklaces, contained lead that exceeded the lawful consumer product safety standard. As part of our inquiry and to help us draft any responsive legislation, we request that you respond to the following questions by September 6, 2007.

1. In addition to the approximately 3,600 pieces of jewelry recalled by the CPSC in March, please provide detailed information on any other children's products imported by your company with lead paint or lead content that exceeds lawful safety standards.
2. Please provide information detailing the level of lead in the recalled jewelry and any other products, if available.
3. Please provide the name and location of the company and facility in China that manufactured the Children's Mood Necklaces.

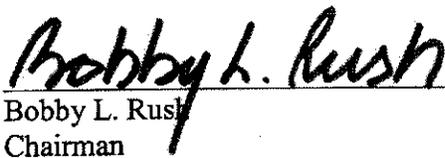
Mr. Larry Tesien

Page 2

4. Are there provisions in your agreements with the Chinese or other manufacturers banning the use of lead and lead paint or limiting its use to lawful safety standards in the manufacture of the products your company imports?
5. What steps does your company take to test and inspect imported jewelry or other children's products before they are sent to retail outlets in the United States to ensure compliance with lead content safety standards?
6. How and when did your company discover the lead in the imported jewelry that led to the recall announcement by the CPSC on March 13, 2007? When did you first contact the CPSC about the Children's Mood Necklaces?
7. Please provide details of the recall action undertaken by your company, including steps to inform retailers and consumers of the recall because of the lead hazard posed by the Children's Mood Necklaces. Did you provide information in a language other than English? Did you take any specific steps to provide information to your retail partners located in underserved communities?
8. Please provide details on the consumer response to the recall since the recall announcement, including how many pieces of jewelry have been returned for a refund, and the number and nature of consumer inquiries that your company has received.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to our request. We look forward to reviewing your responses. If you have questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Judith Bailey or Andrew Woelfling with the Committee majority staff at (202) 225-2927, or Brian McCullough or Shannon Weinberg with the Committee minority staff at (202) 225-3641.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade,
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Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
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The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
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