NEWS from CPSC

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Taco Bell Recalls Sports Water Bottle Because Of Choking Hazard

WASHINGTON, D.C.-- In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Taco Bell Corporation of Irvine, California, today announced a voluntary recall of 300,000 sports water bottles distributed by the firm in a recent promotion. The bottle's mouthpiece can be pulled apart and swallowed by children, presenting a potential choking hazard.

The water bottle promotion at some 2700 Taco Bell stores nationwide began June 4, 1990, and was available to Taco Bell customers for \$0.99 with a food purchase. Taco Bell stopped the program June 7, 1990 when they received a report from a customer that his 21-month-old child had dismantled the bottle's mouthpiece and attempted to swallow it. The child was not injured. Taco Bell has decided it would be in their customers best interest to discontinue sale of this bottle.

The bottle, marketed for more than ten years by Specialized Bicycle Components, has three pieces: the main container, a cap and a small mouthpiece closure top. The top may be pulled apart and poses a potential choking hazard to children.

Since many types of water bottles are very popular and also widely available in stores today, care should be taken not to allow young children to have access to the caps.

Customers who purchased the bottles at Taco Bell should return them for a full refund. Additional information can be obtained by calling 1-800-334-6399.

Send the link for this page to a friend! The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from more than 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. Deaths, injuries and property damage from consumer product incidents cost the nation more than \$700 billion annually. The CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard or can injure children. The CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products - such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals - contributed significantly to the 30 percent decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.

To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270, or visit CPSC's web site at www.cpsc.gov/talk.html. To join a CPSC email subscription list, please go to www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx. Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov.