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CPSC NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE
THURSDAY
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GENERAL ELECTRIC HAIR DRYER RESPONSE ACCEPTED BY CPSC

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 17, 1979)-- The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and the General Electric Co. today announced agreement on a program for voluntary correction of hair dryers containing asbestos insulation.

While the Commission and GE are not in agreement as to whether such hair dryers present or could present a health hazard, and while GE does not believe that it is legally required to undertake this program, GE has urged its distributor customers to return hair dryers containing asbestos to GE and to advise consumers of the situation. GE will retrofit all units capable of being retrofitted with a non-asbestos insulator.

For those units that cannot be readily retrofitted, GE has agreed, at the consumer's option, to exchange hair dryers in good operating condition for a suitable replacement or apply a depreciated credit against the purchase of other merchandise available at authorized GE small appliance service locations.

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Concerned consumers should bring their hair dryers to their nearest authorized service location or should call GE, toll-free, at 800-421-5822 for information. GE small appliance service locations are listed in the yellow pages of most telephone books. Hair dryers should not be brought to GE retailers.

The model numbers of the hair dryers containing asbestos are as follows:

PRO-11/5116-005
PRO-10/5115-013
PRO-6/5112-005
PRO-5/5110-013
PRO-4/5109-001
PRO-3/5107-011
PRO-2/5108-005
PRO-1/5105-013
PB-1/5113-005
SD-4/5101-013
SD-1/2
STC-2
STC-1/1A
UH-20
HD-30
UH-31
HD-56
HD-54
HD-52
HD-51
HD-63/63SS
HD-63SS/5063-008
HD-53
HD-20
HD-55

Anyone wishing to verify model numbers may contact CPSC's toll-free Hot-Line at the following numbers: in the Continental U.S., 800-638-8326; in Maryland, 800-429-8363; and in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, 800-638-8333.

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