



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
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Thomas the Tank Engine Toys Recalled Because of Lead-Based Paint *State Health Department Urges Parents To Take the Toys Away Immediately*

BISMARCK, N.D. – The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and RC2 Corporation have recalled 1.5 million Thomas the Tank Engine trains and parts because they are colored with lead paint, according to Sandi Washek, Lead-Based Paint Program coordinator for the North Dakota Department of Health.

The North Dakota Department of Health recommends that parents and providers take the toys away from children immediately. The recall covers Thomas the Tank Engine products that sold from January 2005 through today. The toys sold for \$10 to \$70.

Lead is a highly toxic metal that was used for many years in products found in and around homes, such as paint and varnishes. Lead can cause a range of health effects, from behavioral problems and learning disabilities, to seizures and death. Children 6 and younger are at the most risk for health effects from lead. There have been no reports of injuries with this recall.

The recall involves wooden vehicles, buildings and other train set components for young children. The front of the packaging has the logo “Thomas & Friends Wooden Railway” on the upper left-hand corner. A manufacturing code may be on the bottom of the product or inside the battery cover. Toys marked with codes containing "WJ" or "AZ" are not included in this recall.

The following list is a breakdown of toys or accessories recalled by name of the products:

- Red James Engine & Red James' # 5 Coal Tender
- Red Lights & Sounds James Engine & Red James' #5
- Lights & Sounds Coal Tender
- James with Team Colors Engine & James with Team Colors #5 Coal Tender

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- Red Skarloey Engine

- Brown & Yellow Old Slow Coach
- Red Hook & Ladder Truck & Red Water Tanker Truck
- Red Musical Caboose
- Red Sodor Line Caboose
- Red Coal Car labeled "2006 Day Out With Thomas" on the Side
- Red Baggage Car
- Red Holiday Caboose
- Red "Sodor Mail" Car
- Red Fire Brigade Truck
- Red Fire Brigade Train
- Deluxe Sodor Fire Station
- Red Coal Car
- Yellow Box Car
- Red Stop Sign
- Yellow Railroad Crossing Sign
- Yellow "Sodor Cargo Company" Cargo Piece
- Smelting Yard
- Ice Cream Factory

To obtain further information and/or instructions about obtaining replacements, consumers can visit <http://recalls.rc2.com> or call RC2's customer service at 866.725.4407 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Friday.

To learn more about lead-based paint regulations and health-related issues, contact Sandi Washek, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.5188. Information also is available on the state health department website at www.ndhealth.gov.

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