
PHILIPS RECALLS POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS COFFEEMAKERS

TORONTO - Philips Electronics Ltd. is requesting that consumers owning coffeemakers with model numbers beginning with HD5260, HD5270 and HD5275 stop using them immediately and return them to the company as they may present a fire hazard.

This recall extends an earlier recall, announced by Philips on December 28, 2000, of model numbers beginning with HL5280, HL5282, HL5285, HL5286, HL5290, HL5330 and HD5320. A total of ten models are now the subject of recall. These coffeemakers are eight-cup thermal models and twelve-cup glass carafe models. Model numbers are located on the bottoms of the base units.

These coffeemakers were sold in Canada by various retailers including Costco, Zellers, Sears Canada, Centre du Rasoir, Truserv Canada, Marchands Unis, London Drugs, Hudsons Bay Company and Canadian Tire. Manufactured for use in the Canadian marketplace only, these coffeemakers have been sold in Canada by Philips since 1996.

On December 22, Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) - an independent, not-for-profit product safety testing and certification organization - advised consumers, via news release, that certain models of Philips brand drip style countertop coffeemakers did not meet certain UL safety requirements and they may present a fire hazard. In response, Philips recalled seven models and now, after additional consultation and testing, Philips is extending the recall to cover three additional models.

"Philips is committed to the quality and safety of all of its products," said Robert C. McGuinn, Vice President and General Manager of the Domestic Appliances and Personal Care Division. "We regret the inconvenience to both our customers and the retailers who carry our products." Consumers owning these coffeemakers can return them for refund or replacement (subject to availability) to Philips Electronics Ltd. Consumers should put their coffeemaker in a box and take it to the post office addressed to:

Philips Electronics Ltd.
601 Milner Avenue
Toronto, Ontario, M1B 1M8

Consumers mailing their Philips coffeemaker should be sure to include their full name and address, and indicate whether they prefer a refund or replacement. The refund will be in the form of a cheque for the suggested retail price of the returned coffeemaker, all applicable taxes and postage.

Consumers may also return their recalled coffeemaker to Philips Service Centre at the above address during business hours.

For information, consumers can telephone 1-877-231-9759; For news media information, contact: Sam Bornstein (416) 586-0180; Ken Cavanagh (514) 843-7171 (en français)