

## SAFETY ALERT!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

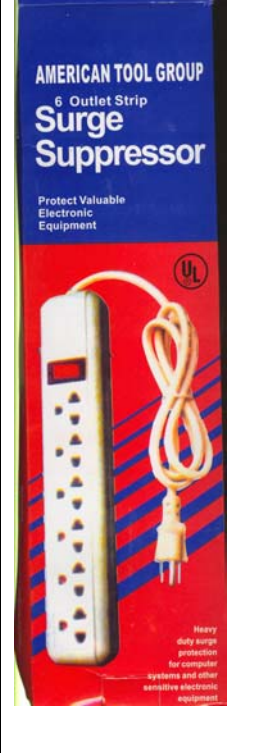

February 3, 2004

### THE ELECTRICAL SAFETY AUTHORITY WARNS THE PUBLIC ABOUT HAZARDOUS ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS

**MISSISSAUGA, ON** – The Electrical Safety Authority is issuing an alert to the Ontario public warning them not to use two electrical products that are unapproved for use in Ontario and present a high-risk of fire and shock hazard. These products have been available from small retail outlets.

This hazard was brought to the attention of the Electrical Safety Authority after an investigation resulted in a number of these products being confiscated from a warehouse in Toronto that supplies small retail outlets. At this time, the Electrical Safety Authority is interested in ensuring that consumers who may have purchased these products do not use them. These products are unsafe to use:

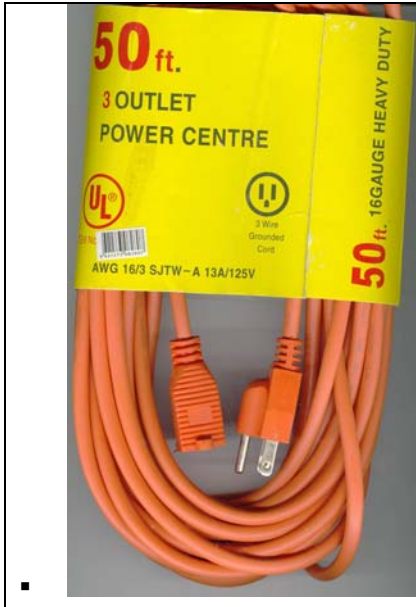
- **THIS POWER BAR is unsafe**

		<p>Manufactured by American Tool Group. This is a 6 Outlet Strip Surge Suppressor with an unauthorized UL® marking on red and blue package. The power bar is white with no manufacturer or product approval marking on it.</p> <p>Consumers can identify this product by confirming the power bar has 6 plug outlets that could fit a two prong blade or round prongs plus a ground pin.</p> <p><b>This product is unsafe and must not be used.</b></p> <p>Preliminary examination identifies the following hazards that could result in either shock or fire:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Conductors are undersized which results in overheating.</li><li>2. It is improperly wired with reversed polarity.</li><li>3. The powerbar case is flammable.</li></ol>
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## Unapproved Electrical Product Safety Alert/2

- **THIS EXTENSION CORD is unsafe –**



The product and packaging include no manufacturers name. Look for 50 foot orange extension cord with an unauthorized UL® marking in a yellow package described as being a “3 OUTLET POWER CENTRE”.

**This products is unsafe and must not be used.**

Preliminary examination identified the following hazards that could result in either shock or fire:

1. Plug blades are undersized and will overheat.
2. Cord material is unapproved.

“Our primary concern,” says, Mr. Marcucci, Chief Engineer and VP of Regulatory and Corporate Services at the Electrical Safety Authority” is that homeowners might have purchased these products and are not aware of the potential hazard these present to their homes and families.”

**If you have purchased one of these products the Electrical Safety Authority asks that you unplug the cord, cut the cord in half, and dispose of the entire product. If you see one of these for sale please contact the Electrical Safety Authority at 1-877-esa-safe (1-877-372-7233).**

If you are purchasing electrical products the Electrical Safety Authority recommends that you ensure that the product (not the packaging) bears the mark of one of the recognized certification agencies listed below, is a familiar manufacturer or brand, and is being sold at well-established retail outlets.



**For more information call:**

**Cathy Chernysh, Electrical Safety Authority at (905) 712-5371**

**Ted Olechna, Electrical Safety Authority at (905) 712-5366**