



UNITED STATES
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

Memorandum

Date: October 7, 2003

TO : John Murphy
Engineering Sciences

THROUGH : Susan W. Ahmed, Ph.D.
Associate Executive Director
Directorate for Epidemiology

Russell H. Roegner, Ph.D.
Division Director, Division of Hazard Analysis
Directorate for Epidemiology

FROM : Linda M. Hooper, EPHA

SUBJECT : Update of Automatic Garage Door and Garage Door Openers Entrapment Incidents to Children under 15 Years of Age Reported to CPSC Between December 1, 1996 and June 30, 2003

This memorandum provides information on automatic garage door and garage door opener entrapment incidents reported to CPSC between December 1, 1996 and June 30, 2003. This is an update to previous memorandums covering entrapment incidents reported to CPSC between March 1982 through November 30, 1996 (See Appendix Table A for list of previous memorandums and Appendices A-1 – A-4 for copies of the previous memorandums). Table 1 contains summary results from each memorandum. In A-1, the counts are of incidents that occurred since the previous memorandums were written. The incidents occurred in certain months not covered by the earlier memorandums. In A-2 and A-3, the counts are additional incidents as measured by the difference in the totals reported in the memorandums.

Between March 1982 and November 1996, there were 62 deaths and 49 injuries to children under 15 years of age associated with automatic garage doors and garage door openers. There were also 75 consumer complaints associated with potential entrapment hazards reported to CPSC during this period.

Table 1. Entrapment Incidents To Children Under 15 Years Of Age Associated With Automatic Garage Doors And Garage Door Openers Presented In Previous Memorandums As Reported To CPSC

App. No.	Date Of Memorandum	Date Of Incidents Reported To CPSC	Deaths	Injuries	Consumer Complaints
A-1	December 24, 1996	1991 – November 1996	4 *	5 *	5
A-2	August 22, 1995	November 1, 1992 – May 31, 1995	4 *	7 *	12
A-3	November 25, 1992	July 1 – October 26, 1992	3 *	1 *	3
A-4	July 23, 1992	March 1982 – June 1992	51	36	55
		<i>March 1982 – November 1996 Totals</i>	62	49	75

* Additional incidents not reported in earlier memorandums A-1 through A-3.

Injuries and Deaths from entrapment incidents reported to CPSC between December 1, 1996 and June 30, 2003

Between December 1, 1996 and June 30, 2003, there were 23 entrapment incidents involving death or injury with children under 15 years of age reported to CPSC. There were also 3 potential entrapment hazards during this period (in previous memorandums referred to as consumer complaints). The incidents occurred between 1989 and 2001. Table 2 contains summary information about the number of incidents that occurred and the type of incident (death, injury, or potential hazard). Potential hazards involve reports by consumers about problems with the products where no injury occurred.

Table 2. Entrapment Incidents To Children Under 15 Years Of Age Reported To CPSC Between December 1, 1996 And June 30, 2003, By Date Of Occurrence

	Deaths	Injuries	Potential Hazards	Total
August 1989 and November 1996	0	12	0	12
December 1996 and December 2001	4	7	3	14
Total	4	19	3	26

Source: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. 2003. IPII and INDP database and Death Certificate database.

Between August 1989 and November 1996, 12 entrapment injuries and no deaths to children under 15 years of age occurred, as reported to CPSC between December 1, 1996 and June 30, 2003. Between December 1996 and December 2001, 11 entrapment injuries (7) or deaths (4) occurred to children under 15 years of age as reported to CPSC. There were also 3 potential entrapment hazards reported by consumers. (See Table 3 attached for detailed information about the incidents listed in chronological order by date of occurrence, which were reported to CPSC between December 1, 1996 and June 30, 2003).

Date of Manufacture or Installation

Only 4 incidents had the date of manufacture/purchase in supporting documentation. One was manufactured post-1993 and one in 1994. The other two were purchased in 1995 and 1999. However, more details were available on date of installation (11 had information). Of these, 7 were installed in or after 1992. The remaining 4 were installed between the mid-1970s to 1988. The following table contains the installation date information.

Table 4. Year Of Installation For Entrapment Incidents To Children Under 15 Years Of Age Involving Automatic Garage Door Openers Reported To CPSC Between December 1, 1996 And June 30, 2003

Year	Number installed	By whom
mid-1970s	1	Unknown
1982	1	Unknown
1986	1	Professional
1988	1	Unknown
1992	1	Unknown
1994	3	1 – Professional 2 – Unknown
1995	1	Father
1999	2	1 – Professional 1 – Unknown
TOTAL	11	3 – Professional 1 – Father 7 – Unknown

Source: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. 2003. IPII and INDP database and Death Certificate database.

Incidents related to malfunction of springs, reverse mechanisms, and sensor problems

At least 6 incidents involved problems with the spring. In 5 cases, the spring is reported to have broken and in 1 case the spring detached. Two deaths and 2 injuries were associated with broken springs. The 2 potential hazards were related to a broken spring and the spring detaching.

At least 5 incidents involved problems with the reverse mechanism failing. Two injuries and 2 deaths were caused by the reverse mechanism failing and closing on the injured child. In the other case, a consumer reported a potential hazard because the reverse mechanism did not function when a blockage occurred (no injuries occurred).

In 2 cases, the sensor electric eye was installed at an *improper* height of 21 inches resulting in 1 death and 1 injury. Sensors should be installed approximately 4-6 inches from the floor of the garage. In one of these cases, it was determined that the father had installed the sensor.

UL Standards

There were very few cases (4) in which the UL standard was mentioned. Three of the doors were compliant with the UL325 and 1 was compliant with UL196.

Table 4. Year Of Installation And UL Standard Mentioned For Entrapment Incidents To Children Under 15 Years Of Age Involving Automatic Garage Door Openers Reported To CPSC Between December 1, 1996 And June 30, 2003

Date Door Installed	UL Standard Mentioned
1993	UL325
1995 (purchased 1995 too)	UL196
1999	UL325
1999	UL325

Source: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. 2003. IPII and INDP database and Death Certificate database.

Appendix Table A – List Of Memorandums On Automatic Garage Door Opener Entrapment Incidents Written By CPSC Staff Covering Incidents Reported Between March 1982 and November 30, 1996

No.	Author(s)	Date Of Memorandum	Title	Date Covered In Memo
A-1	Harpreet Singh	December 24, 1996	Automatic Garage Door Opener Entrapment Incidents, 1/1/1991 – 11/30/1996	January 1, 1991 – November 30, 1996
A-2	Prowpit Adler	August 22, 1995	Automatic Garage Door Opener Entrapment Incidents Since the Last Update (Nov 25, 1992), PSA # 0615	November 1, 1992 – May 31, 1995
A-3	Jo-Annette David	November 25, 1992	Up-date on Automatic Garage Doors: Incidents Reported Since June 30, 1992	March 1982 – June 30, 1992
A-4	Prowpit Adler & Jo-Annette David	July 23, 1992	Automatic Garage Door Incident Update, June 1992	March 1982 – June 1992

Appendix B. Methodology for extracting data from EPIR databases

Data was extracted from EPIR using the following query criteria. The query results were read manually to determine the type of incident that had occurred and other details of interest. Cases that did not involve the automatic garage door opener were excluded.

Queries were extracted on either August 19 or 20, 2003.

Entered Date: 12/01/1996 – 07/31/2003

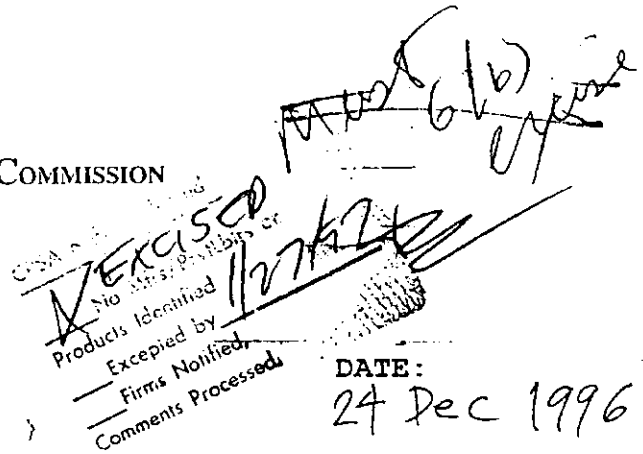
Product Code: 0138

Age Range: 201 – 15

APPENDIX A-1



United States
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20207



MEMORANDUM

TO : Jacqueline Elder, Deputy AED
Office of Hazard Identification & Reduction (EXHR)

Through: Mary Ann Danello, Ph.D., AED
Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences (EH)

Robert E. Frye, Director
Division of Hazard Analysis (EHHA)

FROM : Harpreet Singh, EHHA

Subject: Automatic Garage Door Opener Entrapment Incidents,
January 1, 1991 Through November 1996.

This memorandum provides information on automatic garage door opener entrapment incidents reported to CPSC from 1991 through November 1996.

From 1991 through 1992, there were 10 entrapment incidents reported with children under 15 years old. Four involved a death and four involved injuries. The remaining two incidents involved a potential hazard where a person could have been injured or killed. From 1993 through November 1996, there were 25 entrapment incidents reported. Eight incidents involved a death where four victims were under 15 years old. Fourteen involved injury where 11 victims were under 15 years old. The remaining three incidents involved potential hazards.

None of the cases reported had information on whether the openers were manufactured after January 1, 1993.

A summary of the incidents reported is attached. The incidents are classified into three categories: deaths, injuries, and potential hazards, for 1991 through 1992 and 1993 through November 1996. They are listed in chronological order by date of incident.

Attachments:

page 1 of 12



United States
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20207

MEMORANDUM

DATE: DEC 24 1996

TO : Jacqueline Elder, Deputy AED
Office of Hazard Identification & Reduction (EXHR)

Through: Mary Ann Danello, Ph.D., AED *ma*
Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences (EH)

Robert E. Frye, Director *RF*
Division of Hazard Analysis (EHHA)

FROM : Harpreet Singh, EHHA *HS*

Subject: Automatic Garage Door Opener Entrapment Incidents,
January 1, 1991 Through November 1996.

This memorandum provides information on automatic garage door opener entrapment incidents reported to CPSC from 1991 through November 1996.

From 1991 through 1992, there were 10 entrapment incidents reported with children under 15 years old. Four involved a death and four involved injuries. The remaining two incidents involved a potential hazard where a person could have been injured or killed. From 1993 through November 1996, there were 25 entrapment incidents reported. Eight incidents involved a death where four victims were under 15 years old. Fourteen involved injury where 11 victims were under 15 years old. The remaining three incidents involved potential hazards.

None of the cases reported had information on whether the openers were manufactured after January 1, 1993.

A summary of the incidents reported is attached. The incidents are classified into three categories: deaths, injuries, and potential hazards, for 1991 through 1992 and 1993 through November 1996. They are listed in chronological order by date of incident.

Attachments:

page 2

Attachment 1

Automatic Garage Door Opener Entrapment
Incidents 1991-1996

CASE NO	DATE OF INCIDENT	YEAR INSTALLED	YEAR MANUFACT.	TYPE OF INCIDENT
1991-92 CASES				-
Deaths				
910131HCC1124	01/01/1991	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	DEATH
910307HNE5104	02/09/1991	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	DEATH
920602HCN1991	04/01/1992	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	DEATH
C9275038A	05/31/1992	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	DEATH
Injuries				
910409HCN0971	03/20/1991	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	INJURY
920515HNE5140	05/11/1992	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	INJURY
920528HWE5036	05/12/1992	BEFORE 1990	UNKNOWN	INJURY
920915HCC2245	06/01/1992	BEFORE 1989	UNKNOWN	INJURY
Potential Hazards				
921116HCN0338	09/18/1992	12/1991	UNKNOWN	POTENTIAL HAZARD
930210HWE4013	12/19/1992	BET. 1990-1992	UNKNOWN	POTENTIAL HAZARD
1993-96 CASES				
Deaths				
C9345023A	04/08/1993	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	DEATH
930728HCC3276	07/02/1993	1989	UNKNOWN	DEATH
940819CCC1698	08/10/1993	UNKNOWN	15 YRS OLD	DEATH
941201HCC3022	04/15/1994	UNKNOWN, BUT REPAIRED 1/94	UNKNOWN	DEATH
950802HCC4100	04/07/1995	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	DEATH
950519CCC2673	04/15/1995	UNKNOWN	1989-1990	DEATH
950818CAA1927	08/16/1996	BEFORE 1983	UNKNOWN	DEATH

CASE NO	DATE OF INCIDENT	YEAR INSTALLED	YEAR MANUFACT.	TYPE OF INCIDENT
960729CCC7326	09/02/1995	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	DEATH
Injuries				
930824CCC2515	05/20/1993	UNKNOWN	1970s	INJURY
930624CWE5011	05/27/1993	UNKNOWN	1980	INJURY
930915CCN2469	06/17/1993	1979	1977	INJURY
930812HCN2154	06/28/1993	BEFORE 1982	UNKNOWN	INJURY
931008HCC3004	07/22/1993	1980	UNKNOWN	INJURY
940608HCC1791	07/29/1993	UNKNOWN	1980	INJURY
930922CWE5018	08/30/1993	BEFORE 1989	UNKNOWN	INJURY
9301025HEP9002	10/09/1993	1988	UNKNOWN	INJURY
G9410357A	12/01/1993	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	INJURY
950301CWE5003	03/20/1994	UNKNOWN	1980s	INJURY
940523HCN1497	04/26/1994	UNKNOWN	5 YRS OLD	INJURY
C9530009A	01/01/1995	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	INJURY
950404HEP9005	03/09/1995	UNKNOWN	15 YRS OLD	INJURY
950925CCC3027	08/10/1995	20 YRS OLD	UNKNOWN	INJURY
Potential Hazards				
H93C0111A	12/13/1993	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	POTENTIAL HAZARD
N9420009A	01/18/1994	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	POTENTIAL HAZARD
H9670242A	05/31/1996	1993	UNKNOWN	POTENTIAL HAZARD

1991-1992

	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Injuries</u>	<u>Potential Hazards</u>	
Under 15 years	4	4		
Over 15 years	0	0		
<u>Total</u>	4	4	2	10

1993-1996

Under 15 years	4	11		
Over 15 years	4	2		
Family Pet		1		
<u>Total</u>	8	14	3	25

page
4

1991-1992 Case Summaries

Deaths

- 91/01/01 - SOUTHHOLD, NEW YORK
A 5 year old male died when he became trapped under an electrically operated garage door.
Sources: IDI Task #: 910131HCC1124, Doc.#X9112417A,
Brand/Mfr. : Unknown, Model: # Unknown
- 91/02/09 - SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
A 7-year old male was pinned down by a garage door and died of asphyxia due to mechanical compression. His younger brother (age 3) pushed the button for the door. The victim attempted to duck under the door. His jacket got caught on a metal fastener, knocking him to the floor with the door trapping him across the head and shoulders
Sources: IDI # 910307HNE5104, Doc.# N132079,Mecap # X132673
Brand/Mfr. : Unknown, Model: # Unknown
- 92/04/01 - AVILLA, INDIANA
A 3 year old male was killed after being pinned under an automatic garage door.
Sources: IDI Task #: 920602HCN1991, Doc.# G9250186A
Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED]
- 92/05/31 - LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA
An 8 year old male was crushed to death by an automatic garage door opener that failed to reverse.
Sources: Doc.# C9275038A
Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED]
2967A01359, Serial # 1045-6

Injuries

- 91/03/20 - WATERTOWN, SOUTH DAKOTA
A 10-year old boy was coming out of a neighbor's garage after retrieving a ball. The garage owner activated the door to close with her remote control.. The door struck the boy on back of his legs. He was pinned under it at his upper thigh, facing downward, with his body outside the garage. Paramedics lifted the door to free him.
Sources: IDI Task #: 910409HCN0971
Brand/Mfr. : Unknown, Model: # Unknown

- 92/05/11 - LOWER MAKEFIELD
A 5 year old boy was injured while running under an over head garage door which was electronically operated. The child became trapped with the door resting on his neck. The child was found by his mother in this pinned position.
Sources: IDI Task #: 920515HNE5140, Doc# N9250167A
Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model: [REDACTED]
- 92/05/12 - ALOHA, OREGON
A 9 year old male was entrapped by a garage door when he attempted to retrieve his basketball as the door was being closed by an electrically powered door operator. The operator failed to stop and reverse when the door contacted the victim. The door pinned the victim's head against the garage floor. The victim stopped breathing but survived when the door was removed from his head.
Sources: IDI Task #: 920528HWE5036
Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model: [REDACTED]
Serial #: [REDACTED]
- 92/06/01 - EVANSVILLE, ARKANSAS
a 2-1/2 year old male was found face down at the entrance to a double attached garage, with the automatic door resting across his back. After the victim was removed, breathing was restored, however he suffered severe brain damage and currently resides in a nursing facility.
Sources: IDI Task #: 920915Hcc2245
Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model: [REDACTED]
Serial #: [REDACTED]

Potential Hazards

- 92/09/18 - DANIELSVILLE, GEORGIA
The occupant of the home pressed the wall mount switch for the garage door opener to close the garage. He had not examined the area under the garage door, consequently a metal folding chair which was under the door, was damaged when the door opener failed to reverse.
Sources: IDI Task # 921116HCN0338, Doc.#G92B0012A
Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED]
Model: [REDACTED]
- 92/12/19 - HIGLEY, ARIZONA
The garage door came down and struck the toy bin which was in the way and knocked it aside. The garage door did not stop or reverse direction. It continued coming down and slammed into the concrete floor. The respondent feels that the

defective garage door opener could have caused serious injury to one of her children if they had been under the door when it came down.

Sources: TASK #930210HWE4013, DOC #F324010A0

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model: # [REDACTED]

1993-1996 Case Summaries

Deaths

93/04/08 - SALEM, WISCONSIN

A 3-year-old girl died when she was crushed by an automatic garage door.

Sources: DOC.#C9345023A

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model: [REDACTED]

93/07/02 - CHANDLER, ARIZONA

According to the police, sometime during the morning an 8-year-old boy went into the garage and at some point the automatic garage door opener was operated. The victim may have tripped and fell to the floor near the entrance to the garage. A neighbor saw what appeared to be the head and a hand of a small boy sticking out from under the garage door. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene.

Sources: IDI TASK #930728HCC3276, DOC. #F380016

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED]

Model: [REDACTED]

93/08/10 - HAMPTON BAYS, NEW YORK

An 83-year-old woman was found unconscious on the ground, trapped under the automatic garage door. The bottom of the door was laying across the victim's shoulders and the garage door opener motor was running. The victim had expired before police elevated the door and turned the motor off.

Sources: IDI TASK #940819CCC1698, DOC. #336057664

Brand/Mfr. : UNKNOWN , Model: # UNKNOWN

94/04/15 - PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

A 37-year-old woman parked her car in the garage and activated the automatic garage door opener to close the door. While the victim was attempting to get outside before the door closed, she was struck on the head and was pinned down on the left side of her shoulder and neck by the door. The victim died on 94/04/19.

Sources: IDI TASK #941201HCC3022, DOC. #X4B0634A1-

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model: [REDACTED]

- 95/04/07 - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
A 34-year-old female died of subdural hematoma after being struck on the head by a garage door. No further information was available. Source: IDI Task # 950802HCC4100, Doc.#X572056A1
Brand/Mfr. : UNKNOWN, Model# UNKNOWN
- 95/04/15 - OAKBROOKE TERRACE, ILLINOIS
A 4-year-old boy returned home with his parent from shopping. The parents went inside with packages. They soon noticed that the boy was missing and upon searching, they found him pinned under the garage door. He died from hypoxia and secondary compression.
Sources: IDI TASK # 950519CCC2673, DOC.#X54100CA1
Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model# [REDACTED]
- 95/09/16 - COLUMBIA, MARYLAND
An 8 year old male, who resides with his parents in a single family home in Columbia, Maryland, died from asphyxiation. The victim pushed the switch for the electric garage door to close, waited a few seconds before exiting the garage, the garage door struck the victim on the head knocking him to the ground and then held the victim pinned to the ground.
Source: Task # 950818CAA1927,
Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model# [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Serial [REDACTED]
- 95/09/02 - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
A 45-year-old female dies after pinned under a garage door.
Source: Task # 950729CCC7326, Doc. # 9506175157
Brand/Mfr. : UNKNOWN, Model: # UNKNOWN

Injuries

- 93/05/20 - COLUMBIA, MISSOURI
A 2-year-old boy suffered injury after he was pinned against a concrete floor by the automatic garage door at his home. The door had a working reversal mechanism but not sensitive enough to be activated by the victim's body. The garage door opener was about 20 years old.
Sources: IDI TASK #930824CCC2515, DOC.#C375012A1
Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model: [REDACTED]
- 93/05/27 - HOMER, ALASKA
A 3-year-old boy was found pinned under the automatic garage door with his upper body inside the garage. He was rescued by his mother and

recovered fully. The child may have gained access to the control button by standing on his bicycle. Field testing revealed the door did not retract when a 2 inch block of wood was placed under the sectional door.

Sources: IDI TASK #930624CWF5011, DOC. #F365010A3
Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED]

Model: # [REDACTED]

93/06/17 - LACROSSE, WISCONSIN

A 4-year-old girl apparently activated the automatic garage door opener, then tried to run under the closing door. The child was pinned to the ground by the overhead door. She was found 5-15 minutes later and was revived, but reportedly suffered brain damage. The door opener reverse feature did not activate.

Sources: IDI TASK #930915CCN2469, DOC. #G390103A, and DOC. #327025447

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model: # UNKNOWN

93/06/28 - FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN

A 3-year-old boy, who apparently tried to "beat the door" to get out of the garage was pinned on his chest and neck by the door. He was pulseless and not breathing when he was discovered by his father. A breathing tube was placed down the boy's throat at the scene, cardiopulmonary resuscitation was initiated and intravenous fluids were placed directly into the bone marrow. By the time he arrived at the hospital, his feet were moving and he starting breathing on his own.

Sources: IDI TASK #930812HCN2154, DOC. #G380060

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model: [REDACTED]

Serial [REDACTED]

93/07/22 - MISSION VIEJO, CALIFORNIA

A 3-year-old boy was trapped under a residential garage door. He had opened the door using the control button inside the garage, removed his bicycle, and reentered the garage to close the door. He pushed the control button and attempted to exit the garage before the door closed. He was knocked down by the door as it landed on his chest.

Sources: IDI TASK #931008HCC3004, DOC. #X3A003921

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model: [REDACTED]

Serial [REDACTED]

93/07/29 - HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT

A 33-year-old man sustained crushing injuries to both forearms after he tripped and fell onto a concrete garage floor, and the garage door landed on his lower arms. The victim was running after his cat, and had just pushed the remote control

button to prevent the cat from escaping. The victim was hospitalized for a number of weeks after undergoing at least 2 surgeries.
Sources: IDI TASK #940608HCC1791, DOC.#C455052A1
Brand/Mfr. [REDACTED] Model: # 5010,
Serial # [REDACTED]

93/08/30 - SALEM, OREGON

A 2-year-old girl was trapped under an automatic garage door. The door closed on the child's neck and did not stop or reverse. The child was found unconscious and not breathing. Emergency resuscitation efforts revived the victim who recovered without complication.

Sources: IDI TASK #930922CWE5018, DOC.#F395018A1
Brand/Mfr. [REDACTED] Model: # [REDACTED]
Serial [REDACTED]

93/10/09 - RIVERDALE, GEORGIA

A 2-year old male sustained a fractured left jaw which resulted when the victim's head was caught/pinned under a garage door that was accidentally closed by his three(3) year old cousin. The victim was transported to the reporting ER/hospital where he was treated and was subsequently released with a referral to see a specialist. Per respondent (mother) the victim has fully recovered.

Sources: IDI Task #: 931025HEP9002

Brand/Mfr. [REDACTED] Model: [REDACTED]
1/[REDACTED]

93/12/01 - EAGAN, MINNESOTA

A family pet was injured when caught under the automatic garage door.

Source: G9410357A

Brand/Mfr. : UNKNOWN, Model: # UNKNOWN

94/03/20 - MORRISON, COLORADO

A 11-year-old boy was injured when he was trapped under the automatic garage door after he had been hit by the door and the door opener failed to reverse.

Sources: IDI TASKS #950301CWE5003, 950419CCC3607, and DOC. #C525043A1

Sources: IDI Task #: 950301CWE5003

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model: # [REDACTED]
Serial [REDACTED]

94/04/26 - ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

A 2-year-old girl was fatally injured when she was pinned beneath the automatic garage door at the family's residence. The police determined that the victim apparently pushed a wall mounted switch, causing the overhead door

to lower down on top of her.

Sources: IDI TASK #940523HCN1497, DOC. #G450125A1

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model# [REDACTED]

95/01/01 - Unknown, CALIFORNIA

A 7-year-old boy sustained a broken leg from being trapped by an automatic garage door.

Source: DOC. #C9530009A

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model# [REDACTED]
UNKNOWN.

95/03/09 - PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

A 39-year old male victim sustained a fractured rib when he was crushed under a garage door.

The safety mechanism failed to work when he walked under the door. He was taken to the hospital by ambulance, treated and released.

Sources: IDI Task #: 950404HBP9005

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED]

95/03/10 - EDMOND, OKLAHOMA

A 9-year-old male was apparently entering of exiting a garage at his residence when he was trapped by the garage door. He was treated and released at a local hospital.

Source: Task # 950925CCC3027, Doc. # F9590023B

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED]

M [REDACTED]

Potential Hazards

93/12/13 - HAUPPAUGE, NEW YORK

An automatic garage door failed to reverse when it hit the car bumper.

Source: H93C0111A

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED]

94/01/18 - RIVERSIDE, CONNECTICUT

Complainant stated that, the opener in her pocket must have been activated while she was backing out of the garage. The garage door came down on her car, smashed the door and damaged the car.

Source: N9420009A

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED] Model# [REDACTED]

96/05/31 - HUNTINGTON, INDIANA

A 19-year-old female automatically closed garage door as instructed when the door kept closing after it hit cement floor, bending the top of the metal garage door. Opener's auto-reverse feature also failed during incident.

Source: Doc. # H9670242A

Brand/Mfr. : [REDACTED]

Model# [REDACTED]

Sources:

Newspaper Clippings and Consumer Complaints (IPII)
In-Depth Investigations (INDP)
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

}

page 12 END

APPENDIX A-2



United States
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20207

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 22, 1995

TO : Renae Rauchschwalbe, CCA

Through: Mary Ann Danello, Ph.D., AED
Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences
Robert E. Frye, Director
Hazard Analysis Division

FROM : Prowpit Adler, EHHA

Subject: Automatic Garage Door Entrapment Incidents Since the
Last Update (November 25, 1992), PSA # 0615

In response to your request, this memorandum transmits two versions of the information on automatic garage door entrapment incidents received since the last update¹ (November 25, 1992). One version includes information on the manufacturers for Compliance files and another version which is for public use excludes manufacturers.

From November 1, 1992 through May 31, 1995, CPSC received information on 27 additional entrapments, increasing the total number of entrapment incidents to 189 during March 1982 through May 1995. These incidents are classified into three categories: deaths (67), injuries (55), and complaints (67). All incidents reported to the Commission during this period are summarized in the attached table.

1.Deaths

Since the last update seven entrapment deaths were reported; four of these deaths involved young children. The total number of entrapment deaths increased to 67 from March 1982 through May 1995. The incidents associated with the additional deaths are listed in chronological order by date of incident as follows:

¹The November update covered the entrapment incidents from March 1982 through October 1992.

93/04/08 - SALEM, WISCONSIN

A 3-year-old girl died when she was crushed by an automatic garage door.

Sources: DOC.#C345023A1

Brand/Mfr.: OVERHEAD DOOR CORPORATION

Model : Unknown

93/06/17 - LACROSSE, WISCONSIN

A 4-year-old girl apparently activated the automatic garage door opener, then tried to run under the closing door. The child was pinned to the ground by the overhead door. She was found 5-15 minutes later and was revived, but reportedly suffered brain damage and died 4 months later. The door opener reverse feature did not activate.

Sources: IDI TASK #930915CCN2469, DOC.#G390103A, and DOC. #327025447

Brand/Mfr. :MOORE-O-MATIC/MOORE-O-MATIC INC.

Model : Unknown

93/07/02 - CHANDLER, ARIZONA

According to the police, sometime during the morning an 8-year-old boy went into the garage and at some point the automatic garage door opener was operated. The victim may have tripped and fell to the floor near the entrance to the garage. A neighbor saw what appeared to be the head and a hand of a small boy sticking out from under the garage door. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene.

Sources: IDI TASK #930728HCC3276, DOC. #F380016

Brand/Mfr.:CHAMBERLAIN MANUFACTURING COMPANY

Model: #41A3627

93/08/10 - HAMPTON BAYS, NEW YORK

An 83-year-old woman was found unconscious on the ground, trapped under the automatic garage door. The bottom of the door was laying across the victim's shoulders and the garage door opener motor was running. The victim had expired before police elevated the door and turned the motor off.

Sources:IDI TASK #940819CCC1698, DOC. #336057664

Brand/Mfr: Unknown, Model: Unknown

94/04/15 - PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

A 37-year-old woman parked her car in the garage and activated the automatic garage door opener to close the door. While the victim was attempting to get outside before the door closed, she was struck on the head and was pinned down on the left side of her shoulder and neck by the door. The victim died on 94/04/19.

Sources: IDI TASK #941201HCC3022, DOC. #X4B0634A1
Brand/Mfr: MOORE-O-MATIC, Model: #800 21c

94/04/26 - ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

A 2-year-old girl was fatally injured when she was pinned beneath the automatic garage door at the family's residence. The police determined that the victim apparently pushed a wall mounted switch, causing the overhead door to lower down on top of her.

Sources: IDI TASK #940523HCN1497, DOC. #G450125A1

95/04/15 - OAKBROOKE TERRACE, ILLINOIS

A 4-year-old boy returned home with his parent from shopping. The parents went inside with packages. They soon noticed that the boy was missing and upon searching, they found him pinned under the garage door. He died from hypoxia and secondary compression.

Sources: IDI TASK # 950519CCC2673, DOC. #X541000A1
Brand/Mfr.: Unknown, Model: Unknown

2. Injuries

Eight entrapment injuries were reported since the November, 1992 update. Seven of these victims were young children. The total number of entrapment injuries for all age increased to 55 cases for the period March 1982 through May 1995. The additional incidents associated with these injuries are described in chronological order by incident date as follows:

93/05/20 COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

A 2-year-old boy was pinned against a concrete floor by the automatic garage door at his home. The door had a working reversal mechanism but not sensitive enough to be activated by the victim's body. The garage door opener was about 20 years old.

Sources: IDI TASK #930824CCC2515, DOC. #C375012A1
Brand/Mrf.: THE CHAMBERLAIN GROUP INC.
Model: SEARS 139.6543000

93/05/27 - HOMER, ALASKA

A 3-year-old boy was found pinned under the automatic garage door with his upper body inside the garage. He was rescued by his mother and recovered fully. The child may have gained access to the control button by standing on his bicycle. Field testing revealed the door did not retract when a 2 inch block of wood was placed under the sectional door.

Sources: IDI TASK #930624CWE5011, DOC. #F365010A0
Brand/Mfr.: STANLEY GARAGE DOOR CO., STAN-O-MATIC
Model: V-76

93/06/28 - FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN

A 3-year-old boy, who apparently tried to "beat the door" to get out of the garage was pinned on his chest and neck by the door. He was pulseless and not breathing when he was discovered by his father. A breathing tube was placed down the boy's throat at the scene, cardiopulmonary resuscitation was initiated and intravenous fluids were placed directly into the bone marrow. By the time he arrived at the hospital, his feet were moving and he starting breathing on his own.

Sources: IDI TASK #930812HCN2154, DOC. #G380060
Brand/Mfr.: MOOR-O-MATIC, INC.
Model: SIOUX

93/07/22 - MISSION VIEJO, CALIFORNIA

A 3-year-old boy was trapped under a residential garage door. He had opened the door using the control button inside the garage, removed his bicycle, and reentered the garage to close the door. He pushed the control button and attempted to exit the garage before the door closed. He was knocked down by the door as it landed on his chest.

Sources: IDI TASK #931008HCC3004, DOC. #X3A0039A1
Brand/Mfr.: MOORE O MATIC, Model: #800-210

93/07/29 - HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT

A 33-year-old man sustained crushing injuries to both forearms after he tripped and fell onto a concrete garage floor, knocking him unconscious, while the garage door landed on his lower arms. The victim was running after his cat, and had just pushed the remote control button to prevent the cat from escaping. The victim was hospitalized for a number of weeks after undergoing at least 2 surgeries.

Sources: IDI TASK #940608HCC1791, DOC. #C455052A1

Brand/Mfr.: STANLEY, Model: 1980 DELUXE 5010

93/08/30 - SALEM, OREGON

A 2-year-old girl was trapped under an automatic garage door. The door closed on the child's neck and did not stop or reverse. The child was found unconscious and not breathing. Emergency resuscitation efforts revived the victim who recovered without complication.

Sources: IDI TASK #930922CWE5018, DOC.#F395018A1
Brand/Mfr.: SEARS ROEBUCK AND CO.
Model: 139.653000

94/03/20 - MORRISON, COLORADO

A 7-year-old boy was trapped under the automatic garage door after he had been hit by the door and the door opener failed to reverse.

Sources: IDI TASKS #950301CWE5003, 950419CCC3607, and DOC. #C525043A1
Brand/Mfr. :CLOPLAY CORPORATION
Model : DURALIFT 8100

95/00/00 - Unknown, CALIFORNIA

A 7-year-old boy sustained a broken leg from being trapped by an automatic garage door.

Source: DOC. #C530009A1
Brand/Mfr. : STANLEY/MULTI-ELMAC CORPORATION
Model: Unknown

3. Entrapment Complaints

Since the last update, 12 entrapment complaints were reported to the Commission; the total number of entrapment complaints increased to 67. These additional complaints are listed in chronological order by date of incidents as follows:

92/11/00 - WINTER PARK, ILLINOIS

A new garage door installed on an old automatic garage door opener buckled during a reverse test.

Source: DOC# C2B0018A0
Brand/Mfr. : SEARS ROEBUCK & CO., Model : Unknown

92/12/19 - HIGLEY, ARIZONA

The garage door came down and struck the toy bin which was in the way and knocked it aside. The garage door did not stop or reverse direction.

It continued coming down and slammed into the concrete floor. The respondent feels that the defective garage door opener could have caused serious injury to one of her children if they had been under the door when it came down.

Sources: TASK #930210HWE4013, DOC #F324010A0
Brand/Mfr. : SEARS ROEBUCK & CO. (CRAFTSMAN)
Model: Unknown, Serial #132A1787-1

93/00/00 - Unknown, Unknown

The malfunctioning automatic garage door opener caused the garage door to buckle.

Source: F3B0119A0
Brand/Mfr. : SEARS ROEBUCK - CRAFTSMAN
Model : 139.53603

93/03/00 - SIMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA

A particular brand garage door opener has failed several times.

Source: C360016A0
Brand/Mfr. : SEARS ROEBUCK & CO.
Model : Unknown

93/11/06 - ALOHA, OREGON

The reverse on a garage door failed to operate as a car was backing out.

Source: F410103A0
Brand /Mfr. : LIFT-MASTER
Model : Unknown

93/11/20 - BADEN, PENNSYLVANIA

The complainant decided to test the safety features of his 2 automatic garage door openers (identical units) installed by the builders of his new home. He said that even though the adjustment screws were set at their minimum resistant setting, the garage door exerted at least 50 lbs. of force before the openers functioned.

Sources: TASK #931212NYC5056, DOC.#N3C0032A0
Brand/Mfr.: POWERLIFT
Model: WR91

93/12/00 - EAGAN, MINNESOTA

A family pet was injured when caught under the automatic garage door.

Source: G410357A0
Brand/Mfr. : Unknown
Model : Unknown

93/12/13 - HAUPPAUGE, NEW YORK

An automatic garage door failed to reverse when

it hit the car bumper.
Source: H3C0111A0
Brand/Mfr. : SEARS ROEBUCK & CO.
Model: Unknown

94/00/00 - SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
An automatic garage door opener malfunctioned causing panel damage.
Source: F4C0012A0
Brand/Mfr. : GENIE/PHILIPS HOME PRODUCTS INC.
Model : Unknown

94/01/18 - RIVERSIDE, CONNECTICUT
Complainant stated that, the opener in her pocket must have been activated while she was backing out of the garage. The garage door came down on her car, smashed the door and damaged the car.
Source: N420009A
Brand/Mfr.: ALLISTOR DOOR MANUFACTURE INC.
Model : ARD 11A

94/04/00 - DOYLESTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA
While backing his car out of the garage, the complainant said the door began closing and hit the back of the car. The lower panel on the automatic garage door was bent and the door was knocked off the track.
Source: H9460124A
Brand/Mfr. : GENIE/PHILIPS HOME PRODUCTS, INC.
Model : ST-229

94/11/08 - CARVER, MINNESOTA
An automatic garage door opener was installed by the complainant about 2 years ago. He used the opener without any problems. On the day of the incident, he was opening the garage door when it slammed to the floor. He said luckily there wasn't anyone underneath it when it fell. He examined the unit and found that the main drive assembly failed, causing the door to fall.
Sources: TASK #941208CCC2144, DOC. #G4B0097A
Brand/Mfr. : SEARS ROEBUCK AND CO.
Model : 139.53606

Attachments

Automatic Garage Door Entrapment Incidents During March 1982 Through May 1995

Entrapment Deaths

<u>Age</u>	<u>Last Update</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Total</u>
2-14	54	5	59
15 & Older	6	2	08
Total			<u>67</u>

Entrapment Injuries

<u>Age</u>	<u>Last Update</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Total</u>
2-14	37	7	44
15 & older	6	1	7
Age Unknown	4	-	4
Total			<u>55</u>

Entrapment Complaints

<u>Last Update</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Total</u>
55	12	67

Sources:

Newspaper Clippings and Consumer Complaints (IPIT)

In-Depth Investigations (INDP)
National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS)
Updated Data On Automatic Garage Door Entrapment Deaths,
Injuries, and Complaints: July 1992, and November 1992.
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences, Hazard Analysis
Division (EHHA)

bcc:Danello
Frye
Nicholls
Adler
EHHA Chron

cc: Danello
Bradley

APPENDIX A-3

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT U.S.

MEMORANDUM

CONSUMER PRODUCT
SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

NOV 25 1992

TO : John R. Murphy, Project Manager, ESME

Through: Dr. Robert D. Verhalen, Associate Executive Director *RV*
Directorate for Epidemiology
Robert E. Frye, Director, EPHA *RF*
Dr. N.J. Scheers, EPHA *NJS*

FROM : Jo-Annette David, *JD* EPHA (504-0470)

SUBJECT: Up-date on Automatic Garage Doors: Incidents Reported
Since June 30, 1992

This memorandum transmits information on automatic garage door incidents received since the last update (dated July 23, 1992), and covering the period March 1982 through June 30, 1992.

From July 1 through October 26, 1992, CPSC received information on 14 additional incidents. They involved essentially the same hazard scenarios as those reported earlier, and were classified into three categories: entrapment, non-entrapment and consumer complaints. All incidents reported to the Commission during the period March 1982 through October 26, 1992 are summarized in the attached table.

Since the July update, five entrapment deaths were reported; three of these deaths involved children 14 years of age and under. The total number of entrapment deaths for the period March 1982 through October 26, 1992, increased to 60 cases.

Six injuries were reported since the July update. Of the three entrapment injuries, one involved a child 14 years of age or under. There were three non-entrapment injuries; all were over 14 years of age. The total number of entrapment injuries for all ages increased to 47 cases and the total number of non-entrapment injuries increased to 26 cases.

In addition, three consumer complaints involving potential non-entrapment hazards were received, increasing the total number of consumer complaints to 106 cases (52 entrapment and 51 non-entrapment).

Attachment:

SUMMARY OF AUTOMATIC GARAGE DOOR INCIDENTS REPORTED TO THE
COMMISSION DURING THE PERIOD MARCH 1982 THROUGH OCTOBER 1992

ENTRAPMENT DEATHS

<u>Age</u>	<u>Total</u>	Number Reported	
		<u>July Update</u>	<u>November Update</u>
Total	60	55	5
2-14	54	51	3
15 & Older	6	4	2

ENTRAPMENT INJURIES

<u>Age</u>	<u>Total</u>	Number Reported	
		<u>July Update</u>	<u>November Update</u>
Total	47	44	3
2-14	37	36	1
15 & Older	6	5	1
Age Unknown	4	3	1

NON-ENTRAPMENT INJURIES

<u>Age</u>	<u>Total</u>	Number Reported	
		<u>July Update</u>	<u>November Update</u>
Total	26	23	3
2-14	5	5	-
15 & Older	14	11	3
Age Unknown	7	7	-

CONSUMER COMPLAINTS

<u>Age</u>	<u>Total</u>	Number Reported	
		<u>July Update</u>	<u>November Update</u>
Total	106	103	3
Entrapment	55	55	-
Non-Entrapment	51	48	3

Source:

Injury/Potential Injury Incident File, Death Certificate File,
Indepth Investigation File, U.S. Consumer Product Safety
Commission

APPENDIX A-4

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MEMORANDUM

U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT
SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

RECEIVED
JF

Date: AUG 18 1992

TO : The Commission *Aug 24, 1992*

THROUGH : Sadye E. Dunn, Secretary *SED*
Jerry G. Thorn, General Counsel *JG*
Eric C. Peterson, Executive Director *EC*
Bert G. Simson, Assistant Executive Director *for RLM*
Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction
William W. Walton, Associate Executive Director *W*
Directorate for Engineering Sciences *3*

FROM : John R. Murphy, Project Manager *JRM*
Directorate for Engineering Sciences, 504-0494

SUBJECT: Residential Garage Door Operator Incident Data Update

The attached memorandum from the Directorate for Epidemiology provides an update of the residential garage door operator incident data for the period from March 1982 through June 1992. In that period, there were 51 deaths reported to the Commission involving the entrapment of children 14 years old and younger. Based on deaths reported during the period, the Directorate for Epidemiology estimates that nationally there were 69 entrapment related deaths of children 14 years of age and younger.

The information in this update will be made available to the industry and other interested parties.

Attachment

NOTE: This document has not been
reviewed or accepted by the Commission.
Initial rh Date 8/18/92

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared

α 8/18/92
NO Mfrs/Prvt Birs or

Products Identified

Excepted by _____

Firms Notified, _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT
SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

JUL 23 1992

TO : John R. Murphy, Project Manager, ESME

Through: Dr. Robert D. Verhalen, Associate Executive Director 
Directorate for Epidemiology
Robert E. Frye, Director, EPHA 

FROM : Prowpit Adler, EPHA, (504-0440)
Jo-Annette David, EPHA 

SUBJECT: Automatic Garage Door Incident Update, June 1992

The following was prepared in response to your request for an update of incidents related to automatic garage door operators.

The national estimate for deaths involving automatic garage door operators was 94 deaths for the period from March 1982 through June 1992, or approximately 9 deaths per year¹. Seventy-five estimated deaths involved entrapment, when a descending automatic garage door failed to reverse upon contact. Among these estimated deaths, 69 involved young children, 2 to 14 years old, and 6 involved victims over 14 years of age. The Directorate for Epidemiology also estimated that 19 deaths involved non-entrapment incidents to all age groups (Table 1).

There were 66 injuries reported to CPSC during this time period; they were also categorized into two types, entrapment and non-entrapment. Thirty-six were entrapment injuries to victims 14 years old and younger, and 8 were entrapment injuries to victims over 14 years old. There were 22 non-entrapment injuries to all age groups (Attachment).

During this same period, there were 103 consumer complaints received by CPSC which involved potential hazards. These complaints involved 55 entrapment incidents and 48 non-entrapment incidents (Attachment).

¹ The national estimate and its standard error was based on 69 reported deaths and determined by the Capture-Recapture method. A 95 percent confidence interval placed the number of automatic garage door operator related deaths between 74 and 114 deaths.

Table 1
National Estimate of Deaths
Related to Automatic Garage Door Operators
March 1982 - June 1992

Age	Entrapment		Non-Entrapment		Estimated* Total
	Estimated*	Reported	Estimated*	Reported	
2-14	69	51	7	5	76
over 14	6	4	12	9	18
Total	75	55	19	14	94

Source: Death Certificates, News Clippings.
CPSC, Directorate for Epidemiology, EPHA.

* The Capture-Recapture method was used to estimate the number of deaths related to automatic garage door operators by matching and determining the overlap from two sources: deaths reported by the Fifty-Two Health Jurisdictions and by the News Clips.

Attachment

**TABLES AND CASE SUMMARIES:
AUTOMATIC GARAGE DOOR OPERATOR-RELATED INCIDENTS
March 1982 through June 1992**

Jo-Annette David

**U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE FOR EPIDEMIOLOGY
DIVISION OF HAZARD ANALYSIS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207**

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared

☒ No Firms/Products or
Products Identified

____ Excepted by _____

____ Firms Notified,

Comments Processed.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section		Page
1	Reported Children's Deaths by Age and Sex Related to Automatic Garage Door Closure Entrapment Cases Only	1
2	Reported Deaths Related to Automatic Garage Door Closure Children Ages 2-14 Entrapment Cases Only	2
	Reported Deaths Related to Automatic Garage Door Closure Adults Entrapment Cases Only	11
	Reported Deaths Related to Automatic Garage Doors Non-Entrapment Cases	12
3	Reported Injuries Related to Automatic Garage Door Closure Children Age 1-14 Entrapment Cases	14
	Reported Injuries Related to Automatic Garage Door Closure Adults Entrapment Cases	22
	Reported Injuries Related to Automatic Garage Door Closure Non-Entrapment Cases	24
4	Reported Complaints Related to Automatic Garage Doors Entrapment Cases - No Injuries	27
	Reported Complaints/Incidents Related to Automatic Garage Door Openers Non-Entrapment - No Injury Reported	34
5	Automatic Garage Door Cases Summary By State	39

Section 1

**Reported
Children's Deaths by Age and Sex
Related to Automatic Garage Door Openers**

**Entrapment Cases Only
March 1982 through June 30, 1992**

<u>AGE OF VICTIM</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
2 yrs.	3	-	3
3 yrs.	7	1	8
4 yrs.	5	1	6
5 yrs.	6	2	8
6 yrs.	4	1	5
7 yrs.	4	-	4
8 yrs.	6	1	7
9 yrs.	2	2	4
10 yrs.	2	-	2
11 yrs.	1	-	1
12 yrs.	1	-	1
14 yrs.	1	-	1
TOTAL	42	8	50 + 1*

***Gender unknown**

Source:

Death Certificates (DTHS)
Newspaper Clippings, MECAP, Complaints (IPII)
and In-Depth Investigations (INDP)
Updated Data on Automatic Garage Door
Closure/Entrapment Deaths, Injuries and Complaints,
October 1989, December 1991.
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
Directorate for Epidemiology, EPHA

Section 2

Reported
DEATHS RELATED TO AUTOMATIC GARAGE DOOR OPERATORS
Children Ages 2-14
Entrapment Cases
March 1982 through June 30, 1992

VICTIM'S AGE	SEX	DATE OF DEATH	STATE/ CITY	NARRATIVE AND DOCUMENT NUMBERS
004	M	820615	OH Dayton	A garage door installed without an automatic reverse crushed a 4-year old boy to death - sources, IDI TASK # 840517HCC1248 and MECAP DOC. # X454064A1.
005	M	820910	WA Spokane	A 5-year old boy died of anoxia when he was trapped underneath a garage door operated by an automatic opener - sources, IDI TASK # 831205HCC3058, Complaint # X3C0829A1, and DTHS DOC. # 253022059.
006	M	821030	NY Pittsford	A 6-year old boy suffered a crushed chest while trapped beneath a garage door operated by an automatic opener - sources, IDI TASK # 821105HIA1043 and 821105HIA2401, COMPLAINT DOC. # X2B0152A1, and DTHS DOC. # 236078111.
009	F	820915	IL Aurora	A 2 car garage door equipped with an automatic self-reversing device killed a 9-year old girl. She was found face down on the garage floor, crushed under the door - sources, IDI TASK # 820916HIA2401 and MECAP # X291879A1.
009	M	820324	NV Las Vegas	A 9-year old male died from asphyxiation while trapped by the chest underneath a garage door - source, DTHS DOC. # 232001454.

1982 CASES

1983 CASES

003 M 830712 IL
Bloomingdale
A 3-1/2 year old boy was struck down and pinned by an automatic garage door. He died 6 days later in the hospital - sources, IDI TASK # 830718HCC2204, COMPLAINT # G37999A1, and MECAP # X373492A1.

003 F 830904 OH
Amherst
While playing with an automatic garage door, a 3-year old girl suffered fatal injuries trapped underneath the door. She died 7-days after the accident - sources, IDI TASK # 851001HCC1001, COMPLAINT DOC. # C595041A1, DOC. # G050168; DTHS DOC. # 339068192.

009 M 830213 NJ
Summit
A garage door controlled by an automatic operator killed a 9-year old male. He was found underneath the door dead from cardio-pulmonary arrest - sources, IDI TASK # 830216NYC5154 and NEWS DOC. # N320339A1. DTHS DOC. # 339068192.

010 M 830325 IL
Quincy
A 10-year old male found trapped under an electrically operated garage door died from injuries. Report indicated the door's operator safety was not working properly. Sources, IDI TASK # 830411CHI0614 and NEWS DOC. # G330416A1 and G340046A1.

1984 CASES

003 M 840804 OH
Greenville
A garage door operated by an electric door opener killed a 3-year old when it pinned him underneath - sources, IDI TASK # 850212HCC1144 and DTHS DOC. # 439058255.

003 M 840910 WI
Green Bay
A residential garage door equipped with an electric opener fatally injured a 3-year old boy when it closed on his neck. He strangled to death - anoxic brain injury - sources, IDI TASK # 840910CHI1302, NEWS DOC. # G490094, and DTHS DOC. # 455020673.

003	M	841222	VA Falls Church	While riding his tricycle in his grandparent's garage, a 3-year old male suffered fatal injuries when an electrically operated garage door came down and pinned him by the neck - sources, IDI TASK # 841224HBC1066, COMPLAINT DOC. # C655034, NEWS DOC. # X4C0807A1 and DTHS DOC. # 451042987.
004	M	840414	OH Findlay	A garage door trapped a 4-year old boy by the neck. He died from asphyxiation resulting from crush injuries to the neck and larynx - source, DTHS DOC. # 439027922.
006	M	840428	KS Wellsville	Caught underneath an automatic garage door, a 6-year old male died from chest injuries - source, DTHS DOC. # 420006474, IDI TASK # 841220HCC3063.
007	M	840401	KY Louisville	A 7-year old boy suffocated to death while trapped underneath an automatic garage door - sources, IDI TASK # 840405CBC3152 and MECAP DOC. # X442962A1.

1985 CASES

002	M	850611	NE North Platte	A 2-year old boy suffocated to death from pressure on his chest from a garage door - sources, IDI TASK # 851010HCC1010 and NEWS DOC. # G760043A1 and G8A0177B1, DTHS. DOC. #531007458.
002	M	850104	OK Claremore	An automatic garage door closed on the back of the neck of a 2 1/2 year old boy while he was trying to retrieve a toy from the garage - sources, IDI TASK # 850123DAL4035 and COMPLAINT DOC. # D510179A1, DTHS. DOC. # 540002299.
004	F	850501	MI Saginaw	A 10-year old automatic garage door pinned a 4-year old girl underneath. She died from internal injuries and suffocation. She had been playing with the door by pushing the switch and running in and out of the garage - sources, IDI TASK # 850514CHI0912 and COMPLAINT DOC. # G550105 and X555806A1.
005	M	850624	MI Detroit	A 5-year old boy was crushed under a garage door after he apparently climbed up and activated the door mechanism - sources, IDI TASK # 850702CH11091 and NEWS DOC. # G570002A1.

005	M	851106	PA Bethany	Pinned under a garage door for about 5 minutes, a 5-year old boy suffered severe hypoxic brain damage. The door was operated by a garage door opener - sources, IDI TASK # 851121NYC4017, NEWS DOC. # N5B0146A1 and DTHS DOC #542106230.
007	M	850419	CA Fullerton	A 7-year old male suffocated to death while entrapped under wooden double overhead garage door equipped with an electric door opener - sources, door opener - sources, IDI TASK # 850426WES0099, NEWS DOC. #F545003A1, DTHS DOC. #506062368.
008	M	850127	MD Baltimore	An electrically operated garage door came down on the neck of an 8-year old male and killed him. He had a habit of regularly pressing a button to lower the raised door then darting under it before it closed - sources, IDI TASK #850129HCC119 and MECAP DOC. # X512104A1.
008	M	850720	OK Oklahoma City	An 8-year old male died when he became trapped between the garage door and driveway of his home - sources, IDI TASK # 851230HCC3100, COMPLAINT DOC. # C5C5029A1 and DTHS DOC. # 540015712.
011	M	850403	CA Truckee	A powered garage door failed to reverse when encountering the 11-year old male victim. He died 5-days after the door pinned him by the neck. It is believed a malfunction resulted from an overtight clutch in the door opener's mechanism - sources, IDI TASK #850404HCC3173, MECAP DOC. #X543361A1, and DTHS DOC. #532002080.
006	M	860525	WI Milwaukee	A 6-year old male died while pinned by the neck to the garage floor by an electrically operated garage door - sources, IDI TASK #870121HCC1033 and DTHS DOC. #655202932.

1986 CASES

1987 CASES

004	M	870925	TX Lubbock	After a 4-year old boy pushed the automatic closure button for the garage door, he died from cardiac arrest resulting from a blow to his chest by the door - sources, IDI TASK #890824HCC3249, DTHS DOC. #748102566.
005	M	870407	MI Niles	A 5-year old boy went to close the garage door when he tripped and fell and was pinned by the electric garage door. He died from asphyxiation resulting from upper posterior chest compression - sources, IDI TASK # 871228HCC0149 and DTHS DOC. # 726020644.
006	M	870317	TX San Antonio	An automatic garage door pinned a 6-year old boy to the ground when it closed on his upper back. He died from traumatic asphyxiation - sources, IDI TASK # 870401DAL4074, NEWS DOC. # D730102A1 and DTHS DOC. # 748017281.

1988 CASES

002	M	880912	UT Layton	The mother of a 2-year old boy found her son trapped beneath an automatic garage door. The child died 2 days after the accident. The garage door had apparently malfunctioned many times in the past. The child died of compression/asphyxia - source, IDI TASK # 880930HBC3019 and MECAP DOC. # X899081A1.
003	M	881014	TX Dallas	A 3-year old boy died 2 days after he suffered traumatic crush asphyxia from being caught by the neck under a garage door operated by an automatic opener - sources, IDI TASK # 881205HBC3060 and MECAP DOC. # X8C0252A1. DTHS DOC. # 848091431.
004	M	880719	CA San Dimas	A 4-year old boy suffocated to death from entrapment after he tried to run underneath an automatic garage door at his home - sources, IDI TASK # 890925HBC3250 and NEWS DOC. # X993109A1, X9A3192, X992999.

008	M	880209	MI Detroit	An 8-year old boy found with his head and neck trapped underneath a garage door with an automatic opener was in a coma for 2 years from 86022 - 880209 before he died. There were no witnesses to the accident - sources, DTHS DOC # 826005978, IDI TASK # 890720HCC2177.
007	M	880417	OR Bend	A 7-year old boy died from asphyxiation while entrapped by an automatically operated garage door. The victim was severely retarded. His father said the victim was playing with the garage door opener prior to the accident. He believes the victim was crawling under the door and accidentally pushed the button on the remote control which resulted in door entrapment - sources, IDI TASK # 880425HCC0305, MECAP # X847091A1.
008	F	880119	OH Forest Park	An 8-year old girl died from traumatic asphyxiation when an automatically operated garage door entrapped her chest on the pavement - sources, IDI TASK # 880126CEN0503 and COMPLAINT DOC. # G810297A1.
008	M	880215	MA Worcester	A descending automatic garage door's mechanism failed to retract when it contacted an 8-year old boy across the back, pinning him underneath. He died of asphyxiation - sources, IDI TASK # 880219HCC0188 and COMPLAINT DOC. # X826360A1, DTHS DOC. # 825024759.
009	F	881005	MN Eden Prairie	A double wide sectional garage door equipped with an automatic opener pinned a 9-year old girl by the chest and crushed her to death. A service specialist who tested the door reported that one of two torsion springs on the door was broke and the opener was equipped with a stop safety device but not an automatic reverse. During a test run after the accident, the door would not reverse and continued to apply pressure against an object placed underneath - sources, IDI TASK # 881007CEN0046 and COMPLAINT DOC. # G8A0014, C8B5002, C015003.

010 M 881005 MN
Roseville

While in his family's two-car garage, a 10-year old boy pushed the button for the electric garage door opener to close the door. He tried to ride his bicycle out of the garage as the door descended. The door struck and knocked him off his bicycle. His father found him crushed to death pinned face down under the door. The door was at least 10 years old - sources, IDI TASK # 881007CEN0045 and NEWS DOC. # G8A0013A1 and X8B0183A1.

014 M 881102 TX
Texarkana

A 14-year old male died from asphyxiation as a result of an electric garage door closure against his lower spine. He had pressed the button on the wall, activated the garage door opener, then attempted to beat the door before closing. He was found lying face down on the concrete - sources, IDI TASK # 881121HBC3050, DTHS DOC. # 848119325.

1989 CASES

005 F 891027 CA
Lockeford

A 5 1/2 year old female died of asphyxiation after being injured by an automatic garage door. The garage door pinned her to the floor. She was found 10-15 minutes later face down with the garage door across her back - source, IDI TASK # 891107CWE5002, COMPLAINT DOC. F9B5002A1.

006 F 890627 MN
Farmington

A residential garage with automatic opener, allegedly not functioning properly because of an overtightened clutch adjustment, struck a 6-year old girl and killed her. She may have fallen or tripped before being struck by the door - source, IDI TASK # 890630CEN2026 and NEWS DOC. # G960142A1, X982810.

008 M 890502 UT
Coalville

An 8-year old boy died from blunt force chest compression while trapped beneath a garage door operated by an electric automatic opener - source, IDI TASK # 890724HCC3217, NEWS DOC. # X952146A1 and DTHS DOC. # 949003404.

008

M 891121

MI

Grand Rapids

An 8-year old male was killed with the family's garage door when he became trapped between the door and the garage floor. The victim died of traumatic asphyxia. The door was equipped with an electric garage opener, but was not equipped with an automatic reverse mechanism - source, IDI TASK # 891205HCN0593, NEWS DOC. # G9B0276A1, CERT # 926066689.

1990 CASES

004

M 900423

HI

Waiau

A 4-year old boy died at the hospital the following day from injuries he received when an automatic garage door closed on top of him. The boy had been playing with the remote control, he closed the garage door and tried unsuccessfully to run out before it closed. Source - IDI # 900509HWE4001, NEWS DOC. # F054001, DTHS. DOC #015001981.

003

M 900530

IN

Goshen

A 3-year old boy died beneath a garage door. He reached the button that operates the garage door by using a stool. He then tried to crawl beneath and was trapped by the closing automatic door. He died of asphyxiation. Source, IDI # 900809HCN2214, NC # G080039.

012

M 900409 Puerto Rico

A 12-year old male died after becoming trapped between two-hinged automatic gates. The victim was apparently playing with the opener. He was trapped at the upper part of his chest, head and neck in a standing position. Source - IDI # 901126HCC1064, MECAP #X0B0380.

1991 CASES

005 M 910101 NY Southold
A 5-year old male was playing with an automatic garage door opener's remote control. He tripped and the garage door came down on his neck. He died of injuries to his neck and suffocation. IDI # 910131HCC1124, MECAP X112417.

007 M 910209 MA Chicopee
A 7-year old male was pinned down by a garage door and died of asphyxia due to mechanical compression. His younger brother (age 3) pushed the button for the door. The victim attempted to duck under the door. His jacket got caught on a metal fastener, knocking him to the floor with the door trapping him across the head and shoulders.
IDI # 910307HNE5104, NEWS DOC. # N130079, MECAP # X132673.

005 F 910813 NE OMAHA
A 5-year old girl was pinned on her stomach beneath the single-stall electric garage door. The door was across the middle of her back with her head inside the garage. Sources, IDI #910815HCN1944, NEWS DOC. #B130079, MECAP

1992 CASES

003 M 920000 IN Avilla
A 3-year old male was killed after being pinned under an automatic garage door. Victim was found face down under the door. He died 4 days later of severe brain damage.
Sources, IPII NEWS DOC #G250186A1, IDI #920602HCN1991.

005 M 920518 PA Lowerwakefield
A 5-year old boy died of injuries he suffered when struck by an electronically controlled garage door. Father said he believes the child slipped and fell while playing in garage and that the door struck the child after he fell.
Sources, NEWS DOC # N250167A1, IDI # 920515HNE5140.

002 920600 AL Huntsville
Child died after becoming entrapped under a closing garage door.

Reported
Deaths Related to Automatic Garage Door Operators
Adults
Entrapment Cases
March 1982 through June 30, 1992

VICTIM'S AGE	SEX	DATE OF DEATH	STATE/ CITY	NARRATIVE AND DOCUMENT NUMBERS
035	M	870603	AL Vestavia	A 35-year old male died of asphyxia as a result of entrapment and compression of the neck and chest by an automatic garage door - sources, IDI TASK # 870803HCC0054, DTHS DOC. # 701017406.
062	M	871111	NY Syracuse	A 62-year old male was trapped under a garage overhead door - sources, IDI TASK # 880603HBC0362, DTHS DOC. # 736032167.
043	F	891130	OH Vandalis	A 43-year old female was struck repeatedly by an automatic garage door. Source - IDI # 900720CCC2563, DTHS DOC. # 939093466.
087	F	891230	MN Alberta Lea	An 87-year old female was found pinned to the floor under a double wide garage door equipped with an automatic opener. It was resting across her legs. She apparently fell and struck her head on the floor as she walked under the descending door. The door opener was over 20 years old and did not have a safety reverse - sources, IDI TASK # 900207HCN0984, NEWS DOC. # G020060A1.

Reported
Deaths Related to Automatic Garage Door Operators
Non-Entrapment Cases
March 1982 through June 30, 1992

VICTIM'S AGE	SEX	DATE OF DEATH	STATE/ CITY	NARRATIVE AND DOCUMENT NUMBERS
003	F	820703	IA Cedar Rapids	A 3-year old girl fell from a rising powered garage door at her home - source, DTHS DOC. # 219014111.
087	F	821130	TX El Paso	An 87-year old woman was fatally injured when she was hit by a mechanical automatic garage door and knocked down - source, DOC. # X461007A1.
006	M	830904	MO Kansas City	A 6-year old boy was found hanging from ropes of a garage door equipped with an automatic opener - sources, IDI TASK # 830914DAL4092, DOC. # X394436A1.
046	M	850218	CO Durango	A 46-year old man died from electrical shock when he was attempting to wire the automatic garage door - source, DTHS DOC. # 508003107.
050	F	861001	MI Madison Hgts	A 50-year old woman died when an automatic garage door opener malfunctioned, trapping her inside with the car running - source, NEWS DOC. # G890098A1.
083	M	860509	MI Bloomfield	An 83-year old man was adjusting the garage door opener. He activated it while still on a ladder and was wedged between the rafter and the door - source, NEWS DOC. # G650182A1.
004	M	870902	WI West Bend	A 4-year old boy died from hanging due to the rope attached to the automatic door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # G790108A1.
004 007 adult	M F F	881123	DE Bethel	A mother and her two children died while attempting to escape a fire in their home apparently caused by an automatic garage door malfunction - source, MECAP DOC. # X9B0219A3.

032	M	880702	CA San Jose	A 32-year old man died from asphyxia when he caught his neck between a garage door and the door jam. He was forcing entry into the garage and was unable to get through the small opening he had created - sources, IDI TASK # 890124HBC3077, DTHS DOC. # 8061031176.
085	M	880929	CA Santa Ana	An 85-year old male died from mechanical chest compression and multiple rib fractures which he suffered as a result of becoming entrapped in the support bracket of a residential garage door. The victim was apparently leaning through the support bracket to obtain a bucket of tar and accidentally hit the button to lower the door. As the door lowered the support bar compressed the victim against the ladder on which he was standing - sources, IDI TASK # 890505HCC3165, DTHS DOC. # 806148749.
unk	M	890731	UT Salt Lake City	A man died as a result of a garage door malfunction - source, DOC. # C995004A1.
047	M	890808	CA Sylmar	A 47-year old male died of craniocerebral trauma when he was hit by an automatic garage door. The victim was leaning against an apartment's garage door when the door was opened from the inside with an automatic opener. He fell forward and struck his head on the cement surface. Source - CERT. #906037562, IDI TASK # 901219HCC0080.

Source:
 Death Certificates (DTHS)
 Newspaper Clippings and MECAP (IPII)
 and In-Depth Investigations (INDP)
 Updated Data on Automatic Garage Door
 Closure/Entrapment Deaths, Injuries and Complaints,
 October 1989, December 1991
 U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
 Directorate for Epidemiology, EPHA

Section 3

Reported
Injuries Related to Automatic Garage Door Openers
Children Ages 1-14
Entrapment Cases
March 1982 through June 30, 1992

VICTIM'S AGE	SEX	DATE OF INJURY	STATE/CITY	NARRATIVE AND DOCUMENT NUMBERS
<u>1982 CASES</u>				
002	M	820317	KS Shawnee	A 23-month old male was found in a sitting position trapped underneath an automatic garage door. He suffered bruises to his back - sources, CONSUMER COMPLAINT DOC. # D230138A1 and IDI TASK # 8203423DAL5027.
002	M	820809	NE	A 2-year old male suffered cuts and abrasions to his upper trunk after being pinned under a garage door - source, NEISS.
002		820000	MI Detroit	While pinned under a garage door, a child injured his skull and spine - source DOC. # H2A0050A1.
002	M	820000	PA Hershey	A doctor reported bruises on the left side of a 2-year old boy resulting from the mechanism that reverses an automatic garage door. In this case the mechanism allegedly malfunctioned when the boy went under it - source, DOC. # H2A0044A1.
003	M	820913	MI Detroit	A 3-year old boy was pinned under an automatic garage door - source, DOC. # H2A0080L1.
005	M	820310	WI	An electrically operated garage door struck and pinned a 5-year old boy when he apparently activated the door from inside the house and tried to enter the garage before the door closed. The door was equipped with a commercial operator and does not have an automatic reverse or stop feature - source, IDI TASK # 820319HIA2268.

006	M	820000	UT Salt Lake City	During an unwitnessed accident, a 6-year old boy suffered brain damage while trapped under a garage door which had not reversed properly since recommended adjustments had been made - source, DOC. # Z3C0969A1.
 <u>1983 CASES</u>				
002	M	830326	UT Salt Lake City	According to a letter from a lawyer, a defective garage door pinned a 2-year old boy underneath resulting in unknown injuries - source, LEGAL DOC. # X341023A1.
002	F	830817	WA Kent	A garage door powered by an automatic opener failed to reverse when it hit a 2-year old girl and trapped her underneath. The child required resuscitation and hospital treatment - source, IDI TASK # 831001WES0011 and DOC. # F390520A1.
003	F	830923	WI Oshkosh	A 3-year old female suffered brain damage after being trapped beneath an electrically operated garage door. The door failed to reverse when it struck the child - source, IDI TASK # 860619CHI1012 and DOC. # G660108A1.
007	M	830414	KS Overland Park	A 7-year old boy was hospitalized after an automatic garage door broke his leg - sources, IDI TASK # 891030HCC2032 and DOC. # X9A0156A1.
009	M	830901	MD	A 9-year old male fractured his right foot when he tried to exit the garage. The automatic garage door struck his shoulder, knocked him to the pavement, and closed on his foot - source, IDI TASK # 831019BEP0017 and NEISS.

1984 CASES

002	F	841207	AZ Mesa	A 2-year old girl was hospitalized after a garage door came down trapping her under the door - source, COMPLAINT DOC. # X993000A1.
003	M	840508	GA	An automatic garage door closed and pinned a 3-year old boy's neck between the door and floor - source, NEISS.
005	M	840925	NE Scottsbluff	A 5-year old boy's brother administered CPR when he found him trapped under an electrically operated two-car garage door at his home. He was not breathing and did not have a pulse when found. At present he is not suffering any permanent injuries - source, IDI TASK # 841004HCC1005 and DOC. # X497036A1 and G4A0082A1.

1985 CASES

004	F	850501	MI Mt. Pleasant	Children were running in and out of the garage when an electric garage door pinned the girl to the ground - source, IDI TASK # 850514CHI0912 and NEWS DOC. # G550105A1.
005	M	850419	CA Fresno	Victim was playing, riding a carriage out of the garage and down the driveway. He would push the carriage, jump into it and ride it out of the garage. The electric door closed before he cleared the door, striking the handle of the carriage, throwing him to the pavement - source, IDI TASK # 850424BEP0002.

1988 CASES

005	M	880611	WI Mequion	A 5-year old male and his three year old sister were pressing the button for the automatic garage door and running under the door while it closed. The 5-year old male attempted to return into the garage and was struck and pinned face down by the automatic door. The parents were notified by the 3-year old in time for them to reverse the door before the child was seriously injured. IDI # 910306HCC2101, cc # X132654.
-----	---	--------	---------------	---

001	M	881019	CA Sacramento	An electrically operated garage door hit a 16-month old male on the back of the neck and pinned him to the ground for four minutes after his mother activated it. His mother pushed the button to stop the door from closing, but it continued to close on the child who received no serious injury, only a bruise. His father had to push on the garage door before it opened to free the child. The door was purchased new and installed 8 years ago. The force adjustment on the closure was set to the most sensitive setting - source, IDI TASK # 881024HBC3033 and COMPLAINT DOC. # H8A0111A1.
002	F	881017	NE Lincoln	An automatic garage door opener installed about 19 years ago on a single car garage door pinned a 2-year old girl on the back for 2 minutes at her grandmother's home. Her grandmother and mother used the manual disconnect and removed the victim before she nearly suffocated. CPR revived the child who was hospitalized overnight. The garage door bottom limit switch was out of adjustment which resulted in this accident - source, IDI TASK # 881102CEN0231 and DOC. # G8A0177A1.
006	M	880426	MN Blaine	A 6-year old boy tried to leave the garage as the electrically operated garage door was closing. The door struck him, knocked him down, and pinned him face down on the driveway of his home where his neighbor found him. He was cyanotic with no respiration or pulse. Although he responded to CPR and emergency treatment by paramedics, he was hospitalized for 9 days with anoxic encephalopathy - sources, IDI TASK # 881007CEN0047 and DOC. # G8A0015A1.
006	M	880405	IL Chicago	A 6-year old male was playing under a garage door when a 4-year old hit the control button for the automatic door, closing on the 6-year old resulting in brain damage - source, IDI TASK # 900625HCC2238 and COMPLAINT # H060120A1.
007	M	880826	NY Binghamton	A 7-year old male suffered contusions to his back and chest when he was caught between the electric garage door and the ground according to NEISS.

1989 CASES

001	M	890320	CA Benicia	A 20-month old boy bruised his head severely and fractured his lower, left leg when a 4 year old automatic garage door pinned him against the concrete floor of the garage. The door operator would not reverse on meeting an obstruction, according to IDI. It's unclear whether the reversal failure was due to an incorrect adjustment of the sensitivity control or to some other problem - source, IDI TASK # 890323BEP0001.
004	M	890320	MN Minnetonka	An automatic garage door trapped and crushed a 4-year old boy at the entrance to the parking garage beneath an apartment complex. The child, still hospitalized over a month after the incident, has not regained consciousness. He may have been following a car into the garage when he was caught by the door. Slip clutch type operator was not equipped with a reverse feature - source, IDI TASK # 890328CEN1229 and NEW DOC. # G930403A1 and X982819D1.
001	M	890901	IL Naperville	A 13-month old male was pinned under a garage door when the automatic door opener did not retract after the door came down on him. The infant was in the house and went out unnoticed when his mother returned home and closed the automatic door. The door caught the infant on his head. Hospitalized for 12 days, full recovery - source, IDI TASK # 900209HCC2151 and NEWS DOC. # X020893A1.

001	F	891130	CA Folsom	An 18-month old girl was nearly crushed by an automatic garage door that failed to stop and open when it hits resistance - source, IDI TASK # 900323CWE5015 and CONSUMER COMPLAINT DOC. # F035014A1.
012	M	890709	AR Springdale	A 12-year old boy was hospitalized after he was trapped by an automatic garage door - sources, IDI TASK # 890817WES7085 and News DOC. # F987002A1.

1991 CASES

010	M	910320	SD Watertown	A 10-year old male was struck on the back of his right upper leg by an automatic garage door. He was pinned face down at the center part of the door with most of his body outside the garage. Two of the paramedics were able to pull the door and release the boy from beneath it. No medical treatment was given - source, IDI #910409HCN09, IPNC #G140027.
211	M	910613	TX Allen	Eleven-month old boy was left alone with his two-year old brother for a few minutes inside the garage. The parents were inside the house. They heard the garage door close and on their exit from the kitchen to the garage they saw victim under the door. The door knocked the victim down onto the cement floor. As a result, the victim became trapped with his head, face down, inside the garage and the rest of his body outside of the garage. Sources - Death Cert #91762240, IDI #910624CEP9009.
006	M	910908	FL Ft. Lauderdale	A six-year old boy and a friend were leaving the garage when the door started to close. He tried to crawl under it and became trapped with the door on his chest. Sources, IDI # 910823HCC1381, N18-0274A1.
004	M	910915	IL Addison	A four-year old male suffered severe brain damage after his upper body was pinned to the ground by a descending automatic garage door. Victim was discovered by his aunt, lying on the ground in an unconscious state. He had been playing outside near his family's garage for an unknown period of time. Sources, IDI #911011HCN0150, LEGAL DOC #61A0018.

1992 CASES

004	M	920108	WA Eatonville	A four-year old male sustained minor injuries when he was knocked down by the closing garage door. The door retracted upon contacting the child. Source, NEISS, IDI #920117HEP9001.
005	M	920512	FL Melbourne	A five-year old boy was injured when he was trapped under a remote controlled garage door. He was released from hospital in good condition after being treated for a bruised chest. Source, News Doc #N250274A1, IDI #920603HCC1710.
009	M	920512	OR Aloha	The reversing mechanism of an automatic garage door failed to stop the door and closed upon the victim, pinning his head against the garage floor. Source, IPII DOC #F255036, IDI #920528HWE5036.
008	M	920631	NE Lincoln	An 8-year old male was trapped under the automatic garage door at his neighbor's house. The neighbor disconnected the automatic garage door to let the boy out from under the door. The boy sustained no serious injuries from this incident. Source, News Clip DOC #G260207, IDI Task #920622HCN2105.

Reported
Injuries Related to Automatic Garage Door Openers
Adults
Entrapment Cases
March 1982 through June 30, 1992

VICTIM'S AGE	SEX	DATE OF INJURY	STATE/CITY	NARRATIVE AND DOCUMENT NUMBERS
unk	F	840221	MO Kansas City	Coil broke on spring of garage door. It was difficult to see that spring was broken. Victim assumed operator wasn't working, crushed toe - source, CONSUMER COMPLAINT # X431015A1.
053	M	850601	FL Daytona Beach	Garage door closes too fast. Consumer has gotten door dropped on his shoulder and his car. He says it is almost impossible to get in and out before door closes - source, CONSUMER COMPLAINT # H570048A1.
082	F	850919	WI Madison	The victim stated that the accident involving an electric garage door happened at a friend's house. She said she was looking downward as she was walking into the garage from the driveway and was hit on her forehead by the garage door, causing her to fall backwards into the driveway on her hip. Garage door was activated by victim's friend who didn't see her - source, IDI TASK # 851003BEP0001.
unk	M	860804	CA Los Angeles	A man was pinned under an electric garage door - source, New Doc. # X695919A1.
unk	M	870524	NY Newburgh	A man's hand was hurt by a garage door that closed on his hand and failed to return to the open position - source, CONSUMER COMPLAINT # X9A0159A1.
048	F	891209	OK	A woman broke her leg when struck by a garage door where the automatic opener did not work. Source, Other Doc #C225033A1.

043	M	900603	PA Honey Brook	Tuft fractures to third and fourth fingers after getting them caught in garage door. Unable to verify use of automatic door, IDI # 900613HEP9004 - TERMINATED, unable to contact victim.
	M	920000	CA Montecito	An automatic reversing feature failed to operate, pinning consumer to the pavement. Consumer was finally able to free himself, with torn clothes and abrasions across his chest and left arm. Source, IDI #920520HWE4002, CC #F254002.

Reported
Injuries Related to Automatic Garage Door Openers
Non-Entrapment Cases
March 1982 through June 30, 1992

VICTIM'S AGE	SEX	DATE OF INJURY	STATE/ CITY	NARRATIVE, DOCUMENT NUMBERS
047	M	821008	VA Fairfax	Consumer was trying to open his garage doors and got his finger caught in the door - source, CONSUMER COMPLAINT # H2A0265A1.
041	M	830700	MN Lafayette	A 41-year old male received cuts and bruises in a warehouse fire possibly caused by an automatic garage door opener - source, UL DOC. # U394520A8.
unk	M	830711	VA Great Falls	A garage door was activated by a child injuring both hands - source, CONSUMER COMPLAINT # C370095A1.
006	F	840307	OH Perry Twp	An electric garage door caught hold of a 6-year old girl's sweatshirt and lifted her off the ground, critically injuring her with severe brain damage - source, IDI TASK # 840409HBC1182.
-	-	840416	ND Minot	Victim was hospitalized when an electric garage door opener's wiring malfunctioned - source, UL DOC. # U465543A1.
-	M	840526	WA Bellevue	When consumer followed owners manual of electric garage door opener to loosen screw, the spring began to slip and when he loosened a second screw, the spring flew off. Victim got cuts and needed stitches - source, CONSUMER COMPLAINT # F480101A1.
045 043	M F	870806	MN St. Peter	A 45-year old man and his 43-year old wife were hospitalized when a garage door opener ignited fumes from a can of gas - source, NEWS DOC. # G790054A2.

-	M	880000	IL Mattoon	A man was injured installing an overhead garage door opener - source, DOC. # C865034A1.
-	M	890100	MS Olive Branch	A man was injured while attempting to tighten a lag screw on a torsion spring used to raise and lower the overhead garage door - source, DOC. # C935025A1.
024	M	890410	PA	A 24-year old man was hospitalized due to electric shock while working on an electric garage door opener - source, UL DOC. # U010686A1.
003	F	890409	TX Bryan	A 3-year old female was trying to ride the automatic garage door opener up when she fell off and hit her head on the cement floor sustaining a mild concussion - source, IDI TASK # 890413BEP0001.
014	M	890824	TX	A 14-year old male nearly died after being electrocuted by an automatic garage door track when it shorted - source UL DOC. # U042620A1.
051	M F	891000	IL Hennepin	Husband and wife were slightly injured due to a house fire possibly caused by a defective automatic garage door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # G9B0215A2 and IDI # 900302CBB2257, and COMPLAINT # C035053A0.
010	M	901027	OK Ardmore	A 10-year old male received burns on his leg when a short in an extension cord hooked up to a garage door opener ignited spilled gasoline - source, UL DOC. # UOC0822A1
016	F	901203	MD Potomac	A 16-year old female got her index finger crushed by a garage door opener. NEISS CASE # 910115HEP9006.
044	F	910401	GA Conyer	A 44-year old female attempted to open the garage door. Her arm and hand got caught causing laceration to forearm and hand. source, IDI # 910409HEP9010.
011	F	910419	AR Hot Springs	An 11-year old female accidentally ran into the garage door at her home as it was opening and hit her forehead on it. sources, NEISS, IDI # 910429HEP9013.

unk	910926	CA	Citrus Hgts.	House fire's area of origin was determined to be in area of garage door opener. An occupant received minor flash burns to face and chest. Source, Doc # F185010, IDI # 911115CWE5010.
035	M	MD	Owings Mill	A 35-year old male was injured when his garage door which went up and down by itself hit his car while he was trying to back out of the garage - source, DOC # N1B0005A1.
033	M	AR	Phoenix	A 33-year old male replaced the driven worn gear of his automatic garage door opener. While adjusting the up and down movement of the garage door control screws, the capacitor in the opener exploded and splashed hot chemicals over his glasses and neck. Sources, DOC # F1B5004, IDI # 91112CWE5004.
041	M	PA	Allison Park	A 41-year old male was disconnecting his automatic garage door opener from its track in order to close the door during a power outage. The installation screws came loose and the attaching arm fell, hitting him in the face - Sources, NEISS, IDI # 911223HEP9003.

Source:
 Newspaper Clippings and Consumer Complaints (IPII)
 In-Depth Investigations (INDP)
 and National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS)
 Updated Data on Automatic Garage Door
 Closure/Entrapment Deaths, Injuries and Complaints,
 October 1989, December 1991
 U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
 Directorate for Epidemiology, EPHA

Section 4

Reported
Complaints Related to Automatic Garage Door Operators
Entrapment Cases - No Injuries
March 1982 through June 30, 1992

DATE OF INCIDENT	STATE	CITY	NARRATIVE, DOCUMENT NUMBERS
810000	TN	Mt. Carmel	A 1981 model automatic garage door closed by itself. The motor kept running after the door was completely closed. Circuit board was replaced. In 1985, door closed by itself again. Motor kept running. COMPLAINT # H140103.
820302	NY	Poughkeepsie	A garage door closed on a car - source, DOC. # C230022A0.
820304	ND	Cavalier	Complainant purchased an electric garage door for his shop. After installation, he was attempting to open the door to its highest position to allow a semi truck to enter his shop. As the door reached 10 feet, the rollers came off the track and as he lowered it, the door fell and hit the ground - source, IDI TASK # 820329CHI0257.
820526	MN	Cedar	The complainant reported that the automatic reverse on door is inoperative - source, DOC. # G250243A0.
821129	MI	Southfield	The complainant's garage door opened and closed at random. He believes that his automatic garage door opener is on the same frequency as someone else's - source, DOC. # G2C0018A0.
830321	PA	North Hampton	A garage door operated by an automatic opener closed on a van as the complainant was backing out of the garage - source, DOC. # C330144A0.

830322	FL	Tallahassee	The lawn mower was sitting in the path where the one-year old automatic garage door closes. Instead of stopping when it struck the lawn mower, the door ground the mower until the door broke. Source, IDI TASK # 830426ATL5061 and DOC. # H340067A0.
831222	HI	Honolulu	A consumer reported when he opened his garage door using a remote control, he backed his car out of the garage and the door closed abruptly on the rear bumper of the car - source, IDI TASK # 840419WES4104 and DOC. # F43056A0.
840201	MD	Gaithersburg	The safety reverse adjustment failed when the automatic garage door hit an object. Homeowners had three of the same brand over a six year period - all three failed to reverse even though they were equipped with the auto reverse mechanism - Source, IDI TASK # 840404CBC1160 and DOC. # H430193A0.
850103	IL	Riverside	The bottom of a plastic idler assembly on a garage door opener broke off and caused the steel tube that was connected to it to drop down and penetrate one of the garage door panels - source, IDI TASK # 850225CHI0553.
851006	CA	Altadena	This case involved the investigation of a garage door opener failure - source, NEWS DOC. # C745006A0.
881218	MN	North Oaks	A consumer reported that his automatic garage door opener did not function properly when he closed the door one day in May 1986. The door came down and pinned his 65 pound dog to the concrete sill, resulting in internal injuries. He had to disconnect the door to get it off the dog. The opener functioned properly during the on-site investigation, even though one of the two torsion springs had been broken since January 1988. The consumer had made adjustments to the opener subsequent to the incident - sources, IDI TASK # 881129CEN0310 and DOC. # G8A0059A0.

851101	WI	Wausau	An electrically operated garage door came down on the victim without being manually activated - source, IDI TASK # 851104HCC1031 and DOC. # C5B5004A1.
860523	WI	Depere	An electric garage door opener did not reverse as designed on several occasions. Came down on dogs back, fracturing spine - source, DOC. # G650168.
860523	CA	Torrance	A garage door opener activated the door while the car was being driven into the garage. The door closed on the vehicle - source, DOC. # C650034A0.
860703	OK	Chickasha	An overhead door opener's automatic reversal mechanism fails - source, DOC. # C675006A0.
860900	MO	Kansas City	Consumer reports that garage door opener consistently continues to run after the door has fully opened. The only way to stop retractor mechanism is to pull the plug - source, COMPLAINT # D6A9988A0.
860919	PA	Wallingford	The spring on the garage door opener fails without warning when it is in the extended position - source, IDI TASK # 860924NYC5145 and DOC. # N690008A0.
861000	MI	Lewiston	According to consumer, the garage door opener doesn't work correctly - source, NEWS DOC. # H6B0199A0.
870320	OH	Lorain	A garage door failed to stop after reaching a fully closed position causing damage to the rail and screw support. This incident occurred following a 120 volt power interruption.
870600	CA	Port Hunene	Consumer opened garage door, drove car into the garage. The box fell into the door's path when he closed the door with control. The box was crushed because the door did not have an automatic reverse feature. Source, CC #H180012A0. Source, IDI TASK # 861030CHI0150 and DOC. # G6A0118A0.
870824	MI	Woodhaven	The automatic garage door doesn't retract when coming into contact with obstacles as advertised - source, DOC. # C780027A0.

870925	WI	Cleveland	According to consumer, the garage door opener was faulty and continues to jam - source, COMPLAINT DOC. # G790120A0.
880613	IL	Chicago	An automatic garage door failed to reverse itself when it came down on an object - source, DOC. # G860014A0.
880622	WI	Pell Lake	Hinges on automatic garage door opener are assembled instead of having "Machined sheaves" which could cause the doors to fall back down - source, DOC. # C860009A0.
880715	CA	Sunnyvale	After pushing the button to close the automatic garage door, consumer's cat ran under garage door and was crushed and killed. Garage door did not retract upon contact with cat. Source - IDI TASK # 900827CWE5017, CC # H070117.
880726	OH	Cleveland	Automatic garage door opener malfunctioned and began to go through cycles by itself - source, COMPLAINT # G990008A0.
880912	TX	Alvin	An automatic garage door opener with a self stopping mechanism failed to stop closing when it came in contact with a piece of wood - source, DOC. # F897004A0.
881130	AZ	Scottsdale	Button on automatic garage door opener gets stuck in the "close" position causing the door to close unexpectedly - source, DOC. # F800115A0.
881206	NY	Orchard Par	An automatic garage door opener would close as much as a half hour after the control unit was operated. Prior to the on-site investigation, the operator unit of this door had been replaced by the installer - source, IDI TASK # 881216NYC5017 and NEWS DOC. # N8C0050.
881208	FL	Northport	Consumer is concerned that the manual pull latch on the automatic garage door allows the door to close with excessive force which could injure someone - source, DOC. # N8C0009A0.
890118	FL	Altamonte Springs	The consumer feels that the electric garage door opener is an entrapment hazard because the door will not retract when it hits something - source, DOC. # H910177A0.

890300	PA	Yardley	A consumer reported that his garage door opener is dangerous, the garage door suddenly came down on his car and damaged it, and the transmitter button did not respond after he pressed it - source, DOC. # C940015A0.
890600	MI	Detroit	The consumer believes the automatic garage door opener is dangerous as it will not reverse itself when something gets in the path of the door. DOC. # G970048A0.
890800	IL	Schaumburg	The automatic garage door failed to reverse itself after crushing a plastic container. Source, IPII DOC #G980200A0.
900215	CA	Sacramento	Automatic garage door failed to reverse creating a crushing hazard - source, IDI # 900401CWE5001, COMPLAINT # F045001A0.
900228	CA	Clovis	The button on the radio transmitter of the automatic door stuck causing door to close unintentionally, pinning cat to garage floor. Reverse mechanism failed. Source - IDI # 900606HCC2223, CC # C050038.
900302	AL	Birmingham	Consumer used remote control in car to open garage door, drove car into garage and garage door slammed shut as consumer was getting out of car - source, COMPLAINT # H060026A0.
900322	CA	Woodland Hill	Operator used remote control to open automatic door from car. As car entered garage, electric garage door opener's automatic reverse failed and damaged top of car - source, Complaint # N060035 and F080130, IDI TASK # 900822HWE4003.
900415	CA	Roseville	Complainant tested his garage door by placing a 4" x 5" block of wood in the path of a closing electric garage door opener. The door did not reverse upon contact - source, IDI TASK # 900427CWE5019 and COMPLAINT # F045019.
900419	FL	Miami	A newly installed garage door opener came down on a 3-year old female's shoulder. She immediately jumped out of the way without injury, but the door continued to close. Source - CC # N070009.
900527	MI	Lansing	After several months of using electric garage door opener, support bar bent and separated from door causing door to crash down nearly crushing a person - source, COMPLAINT # C060013.

900600	IL	Peoria	Consumer noticed that immediately after automatic garage door is opened, it began to close, nearly missing the car - source, COMPLAINT # H060053A0.
900605	MN	Crystal	After closing garage door consumer heard buzzing sound coming from door and noticed garage door had closed on a bag of fertilizer and did not reopen. Bag of fertilizer was approximately 2" high - source, H060046A0.
900818	WA	Redmond	Automatic opener failed 1" block test so owner adjusted accordingly. After 6 tests, motor capacitor blew and sprayed out a black substance. Source - IDI TASK # 900925CCCC3700, COMPLAINT # F0900003.
900926	IL	Vernon Hills	After raising automatic garage door, owner backed car out. Garage door suddenly activated and returned down, breaking the back window of the car. Door would not reverse. Source - IDI TASK # 90101CCN0112, COMPLAINT # G0A0012.
910202	MN	Burnsville	Garage door opener was newly installed and worked fine, however the reverse mechanism was not inspected. Complainant was backing his car out of his garage when the door came down and smashed the rear window of his car and buckled the sheet metal. CC # G120149.
910319	MI	Jackson	Consumer drove his new car into the garage, but failed to drive far enough to clear the door. When he closed the door, it hit the car and did not reverse upon contact. Source, ATTORNEY # C180007.
910427	TX	Lewisville	Garage door came down on garbage can and failed to reverse. The door broke into several pieces and broke the glass completely. Source, CC # F160120.
910715	NC	Chapel Hill	Cat was sitting on top of the garage door when consumer's wife closed the door with automatic control. Cat's neck got caught between top of door frame and the garage door and died. Source, CC # H170096A0.
910722	NY	Lewiston	Consumer pushed button to open garage door because his mother was entering the garage. The garage door jerked back, but did not reverse and slammed shut. Source, CC # H170146A0.

910814	WA	Bothell	An automatic garage door opener would not reverse when tested with a piece of wood. Source, CC # F220160A-92.
911100	CA	Sacramento	Automatic garage door opener crushed and killed 1 1/2-year old cat. Double garage door would only partially close and then reopen. Sources, CC # H170096A0, IDI # 911126CWE5012.
911107	MN	Rochester	Consumer installed automatic garage door himself and it worked fine when tested. However, the door came down and hit the rear bumper of the car and kept pressing down, causing the garage door to buckle. Source, CC # G1B0181.
911206	KS	Selden	The automatic garage door opener's reverse did not work. Source, CC # H1C0044A0-92.

Reported
Complaints/Incidents Related to Automatic Garage Door Openers
Non-Entrapment - No Injury Reported
March 1982 through June 30, 1992

DATE OF INCIDENT	STATE	CITY	NARRATIVE AND DOCUMENT NUMBERS
820710	MD	Cumberland	Soon after installing garage door opener, consumer noticed smoking and sparking - source, IDI TASK # 821015NYC5028.
820809	PA	Johnstown	The motor control circuit fails which leaves the light on continuously producing excessive heat and melts plastic - source, COMPLAINT # H280145A1.
830520	MI	-	A short in an electric garage door opener cord fell into a lawn chair, igniting chair - source, NEWS DOC. # G350168A0.
830826	MN	Brownnton	Propane gas build-up in a garage was apparently ignited by the electric garage door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # G380233A0.
830809	WI	Grand Chute	Duplex fire was caused by a faulty electric garage door opener - source, UL DOC. # U394608A0.
830904	CT	Colchester	Electric short in garage door opener caused fire - source, NEWS DOC. # N390090A0.
831108	IA	Glenwood	A propane leak was ignited by an electric garage door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # G3C0054B0.
831111	NE	Glenwood	While closing the automatic garage door opener, a propane leak was ignited by relay on door motor, explosion - source, NEWS DOC. # G3B0241A0.
831226	WY	Laramie	House fire began in electric wiring to garage door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # F411061A0.
840515	IN	South Bend	An overheated Electric garage door opener started a fire - source, NEWS DOC. # G450273A0.

840521	CA	Concord	Automatic garage door opener believed to be the cause of a house fire - sources, IDI TASK # 840606WES0156 and DOC. # F455006.
840611	PA	Summit Twp	Fire started in garage door opener and spread throughout house - source, UL DOC. # U476197A0.
840900	OH	Wooster	Electric garage door opener may have caused a fire - source, GOVT REFERRAL # C515015A0.
840905	CA	La Canada Flint	An electric short in a garage door opener ignited a fire - source, UL DOC. # U4A0237A0.
841230	NY	Johnstown	Overhead garage door opener blamed for fire - source, NEWS DOC. # N510219A0.
850713	NV	Las Vegas	A short in a garage door opener caused a fire in a townhouse - sources, IDI TASK # 860228WES5055 and DOC. # F620803A0.
850909	OK	Oklahoma City	Electric garage door opener was the cause of a fire - source, NEWS DOC. # D590085A1.
850921	FL	Naples	Garage door opener is possibly the cause of a fire - source, IDI TASK # 860317CCC3076 and Doc. # C635006A0.
860513	CA	Alamo	A fire was apparently caused by an electric garage door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # F661027A0.
860918	SD	Sioux Falls	Garage door opener was found smoking - source, NEWS DOC. # G6A0032A0.
870112	WI	Menomonee Falls	Improperly operating garage door opener caused a fire - source, NFIRS DOC. # X732807A0.
870427	IN	South Milford	A fire was apparently caused by an overheated garage door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # G750059A0.
870517	WA	Bothell	Electric short in a garage door opener ignited the house - sources, IDI TASK # 870529WES5074 and NEWS DOC. # F750575A0.

880000	PA	Ardmore	A condo fire was caused by an overheated garage door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # N7C0136A0.
880000	NY	Scarsdale	Firemen responded to a faulty belt drive on an electric garage door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # N860144E0.
880726	SD	Milbank	Garage door opener malfunctioned causing fire - source, DOC. # C8C5014A0.
880920	MN	May Twp	Barn fire probably caused by faulty door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # G8A0160A0.
881107	IN	Greencastle	House fire blamed on a short in a wire leading to the garage door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # G8B0143A1.
890130	MN	Fairmont	A garage door opener caused a building fire - source, NEWS DOC. # G920054A0.
890308	WI	Janesville	Garage fire apparently caused by a defective automatic garage door opener - source, GOVT REFERRAL # G940018A0.
890529	TX	Mesquite	An automatic garage door without a reversing device caused excessive pull on springs, causing them to burst with a force that damaged a car. Source, CC DOC #H960106A0.
890912	CA	Simi Valley	House fire was caused by a faulty garage door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # F9B0002B0.
891007	MN	Waverly	Garage fire was caused by an overheated electric garage door opener - source, COMPLAINT # G9A0181A0.
891009	WI	Racine	A house fire was blamed on a faulty electric garage door opener - source, NEWS DOC. # G9A0222A0.
900000	CO	Colorado Springs	Respondent installed 3 automatic garage door openers. Units lights are marked not to use a bulb over 75 watts. He installed a 50 watt bulb and later noticed the plastic cover had discolored and distorted. COMPLAINT # F130105.

900519	FL	Palm Beach	Fire caused by an electric garage door opener destroyed a home - source, IDI TASK # 900607CNE5195 and NEWS DOC. # N060097.
900602	MI	Taylor	Consumer opened door using remote control, support rod broke and door would not open - source, COMPLAINT # H060020A0.
900108	IN	Indianapolis	A family lost all belongings in a house fire believed to be caused by a garage door opener - source, UL DOC. # U112074A0.
900712	MN	Jamesville	A faulty garage door opener may have ignited a fire to a bathroom. Source - NEWS DOC. # G070180.
910216	NY	Clarence	A residential fire appears to be caused by the wall mounted unit's remote transmitter. IDI #910321CNE5116.
910400	AZ	Tucson	Consumer alerting agency to potential hanging hazard to children due to low clearance garage door cables. Source, COMPLAINT # F140075A0.
910624	CT	Springdale	A residential fire could have been the result of a malfunctioning garage door opener installed two weeks earlier by a carpenter. Source, News Doc # N170205A0, IDI # 910904CCC1712.
910906	CA	Sacramento	A faulty garage door opener may have been the cause of fire. Source, CC #F1B5010A0, IDI #91115CWE5010.
911126	MN	Cannon Falls	A fire may have been started by a malfunctioning garage door opener. Source, News Clip DOC #G1C0146S0, IDI #911226HCN0669.
920302	IL	Peru	A short in a faulty garage door opener caused a fire at a home. Source, UL DOC #U263288A0.
920307	TX	Irving	An electrical short caused by an overload of the wiring system connected to the garage door opener caused a house fire. Source, UL DOC #U263120A0.
920401	NJ	Old Tappan	An automatic garage door opener did not stop when signaled to stop. Source, CC DOC #N240060A0.
920417	NY	East Northport	An automatic garage door opener has no reversing mechanism and cannot be modified. Source, CC DOC #H240115A0.

Source:
Newspaper Clippings and Consumer Complaints (IPII)
In-Depth Investigations (INDP)
Updated Data on Automatic Garage Door
Closure/Entrapment Deaths, Injuries and Complaints,
October 1989, December 1991.
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
Directorate for Epidemiology, EPA

Section 5

AUTOMATIC GARAGE DOOR OPENER CASES

Summary By State

March 1982 through June 30, 1992

DTHS = Deaths
INJ = Injuries
COMP = Complaints/Incidents

	STATE	CITY	AGE	SEX	DATE	NARRATIVE
	ALABAMA					
	DTHS:	Vestavia	35	M	870603	-Entrapment of neck and chest by automatic garage door.
	COMP:	Huntsville	2		920600	-Entrapped under closing garage door.
		Birmingham			900302	-Automatic door slammed closed after being opened.
	ARIZONA					
	INJ:	Mesa	2	F	841207	-Automatic garage door came down, trapping child beneath.
		Phoenix	33	M	911102	-Capacitor exploded and splashed consumer.
	COMP:	Scottsdale			881130	-Button sticks causing automatic door to close unexpectedly.
		Tucson			901200	-low clearance kit for automatic door a potential hazard.
	ARKANSAS					
	INJ:	Springdale	12	M	890709	-Child hospitalized after being trapped by automatic door.
		Hot Springs	11	F	910414	-Ran into an opening automatic garage door.
	CALIFORNIA					
	DTHS:	Truckee	11	M	850403	-Automatic reverse failed pinning child under garage door.
		Fullerton	7	M	850419	-Entrapped under electric door opener and suffocated.
		San Jose	32	M	880702	-Asphyxiated when caught between garage door and door jam.
		San Dimas	4	M	880719	-Entrapped while trying to run beneath electric door.
		Santa Ana	85	M	880929	-Entrapped in support bracket of automatic garage door.
		Sylmar	47	M	890808	-Victim was hit in the head by an automatic door.
		Lockeford	5	F	891027	-Pinned beneath electric garage door and suffocated.
		Fresno	5	M	850419	-Hit by an automatic door while riding on a carriage.
	INJ:	Los Angeles	-	M	860804	-Pinned under electric garage door opener.
		Marina Del Rey		F	871003	-Automatic door fell, seriously injuring adult.
		Sacramento	1	M	881019	-Pinned to ground by automatic door for 4 minutes.

CALIFORNIA (continued)

Benicia	1	M	890320
Folsom	1	F	891130
Citrus Hgts	-	-	910926
Montecito	Adult	M	920000
COMP: Concord			840521
La Canada Flint			840905
Altadena			851006
Alamo			860513
Torrance			860523
Port Huneme			870600
Sunnyvale			880000
Simi Valley			890912
Sacramento			900215
Clovis			900228
Woodland Hill			900322
Roseville			900415
Sacramento			911199
Sacramento			910906

- Automatic door pinned child to floor, fracturing leg.
- Door failed to stop and reverse when it hit a child.
- person received minor burns from fire caused by opener.
- Reversing feature failed, pinning consumer to pavement.
- Automatic door believed to be the cause of a fire.
- Electric short in garage door ignited fire.
- Automatic garage door opener failed.
- Fire was caused by an automatic garage door opener.
- Garage door opener closed on a car while entering garage.
- Automatic garage door failed to reverse.
- Automatic garage door crushed and killed family cat.
- House fire was caused by automatic garage door opener.
- Fail to reverse creating a crushing hazard.
- Button on remote control of automatic door sticks.
- Auto reverse failed causing door to damage a car.
- Automatic door failed to reverse when tested with a block.
- Automatic garage door crushed and killed a family cat.
- Faulty garage door opener may have been the cause of fire.

COLORADO

DTHS: Durango	46	M	850218
COMP: Colorado Springs			900000

- Electric shock death while wiring automatic garage door.
- Plastic light cover of automatic door melted and discolored.

CONNECTICUT

COMP: Colchester			830904
Springdale			910624

- Electric short in garage door opener caused a fire.
- Home fire believed caused by malfunctioning door opener.

DELAWARE

DTHS: Bethel	4,7,adult		881123
--------------	-----------	--	--------

- Mother and children died in fire caused by automatic door.

FLORIDA

INJ: Daytona Bch	53	M	850601
Fort	6	M	910908
Lauderdale			
Melbourne	5	M	920512

- Garage door opener closed on victim's shoulder and car.
- Trapped under door, unconscious when found.
- Injured when he was trapped under a remote controlled garage door.

FLORIDA (continued)						
COMP:	Tallahassee	830322				-Automatic door closed on a lawn mower until door broke.
	Naples	850921				-Automatic garage door opener is possible cause of a fire.
	Northport	881208				-Manual pull latch allows door to close with excessive force.
	Altamonte Springs	890118				-Automatic door will not retract when it hits an object.
	Miami	900419				-Auto door came down and hit 3-year old's shoulder-no injury.
	Palm Beach	900519				-Fire was caused by an automatic garage door opener.
GEORGIA						
INJ:	-	3	M	840508		-Automatic garage door closed on child's neck.
	Conyer	44	F	910401		-Arm and hand got caught in the door.
HAWAII						
DTHS:	Waiau	4	M	900424		-Automatic door closed on child playing with remote control.
COMP:	Honolulu			831222		-Electric garage door closed on a car backing out garage.
ILLINOIS						
DTHS:	Aurora	9	F	820915		-Automatic door equipped with auto reverse crushed child.
	Quincy	10	M	830325		-Trapped under electric garage door, safety not working.
	Bloomingtondale	3	M	830712		-Child died 6-days after being pinned by automatic door.
INJ:	Mattoon	-	M	880000		-Man injured installing automatic garage door opener.
	Chicago	6	M	880405		-Automatic door entrapped child resulting in brain damage.
	Naperville	1	M	890901		-Automatic door failed to retract, pinning child.
	Addison	4	M	910915		-pinned under automatic garage door.
	Hennepin	51	M	891000		-Husband and wife injured in fire caused by automatic door.
COMP:	Riverside			850103		-Plastic idler assembly on automatic door broke.
	Chicago			880613		-Garage door failed to reverse when it hit an object.
	Schaumburg			890800		-Garage door failed to reverse itself after crushing a plastic container.
	Peoria			900600		-Immediately after door is opened it begins to close.
	Vernon Hills			900926		-Automatic door came down on car, breaking rear window.
	Peru			920302		-A short in faulty garage door opener caused a house fire.

INDIANA

DTHS:	Goshen	3	M	900530	-Child pinned down by automatic garage door. Asphyxiation.
INJ:	Avilla	3	M	920000	-Killed after being pinned under automatic garage door.
COMP:	Indianapolis			900108	-Family lost all belongings in fire believed caused by garage door opener.
	South Bend			840515	-Electric garage door opener started a fire.
	South Milford			870427	-Fire caused by an overheated garage door opener.
	Green Castle			881107	-House fire blamed on wiring for automatic door opener.

IOWA

DTHS:	Cedar Rapids	3	F	820703	-Child died after falling from rising automatic door.
COMP:	Glenwood			831111	-Propane leak ignited by spark from automatic door.

KANSAS

DTHS:	Wellsville	6	M	840428	-Child trapped under automatic door, died of chest injuries.
INJ:	Shawnee	2	M	820317	-Trapped under automatic garage door, bruised back.
COMP:	Overland Pk	7	M	830414	-Child hospitalized after automatic door broke his leg.
	Selden			911206	-Garage door opener's reverse did not work.

KENTUCKY

DTHS:	Louisville	7	M	840401	-Suffocated while trapped under automatic garage door.
-------	------------	---	---	--------	--

MARYLAND

DTHS:	Baltimore	8	M	850127	-Electric garage door came down on neck of child.
INJ:	-	9	M	830901	-Fractured leg when automatic door came down on him.
	Potomac	16	F	901203	-Index finger crushed by garage door opener.
	Owings Mill	35	F	919912	-Garage door came down on car.
COMP:	Cumberland			820710	-Consumer noticed smoke and sparks from door opener.
	Gaithersburg			840201	-Safety reverse failed when automatic door hit an object.

MASSACHUSETTS

DTHS:	Worcester	8	M	880215	-Reverse mechanism failed pinning child across the back.
	Springfield	7	M	910209	-Running under descending door when it caught his jacket and pinned him to the ground.

MICHIGAN

DTHS:	Saginaw	4	F	850501	-Automatic door pinned child beneath.
	Detroit	5	M	850624	-Crushed under electrically operated garage door.
	Bloomfield	83	M	860509	-Victim was adjusting automatic door when it activated.
	Madison Hgts	50	F	861001	-Trapped in garage with car running, CO poisoning.
	Niles	4	M	870407	-Tripped, fell, and was pinned under automatic door.
	Detroit	8	M	880209	-Head and neck were trapped under automatic garage door.
	Grand Rapids	8	M	891121	-Asphyxiated when pinned down by automatic garage door.

MICHIGAN (continued)

INJ: Detroit 2 - 820000
Detroit 3 - 820913
Mt. Pleasant 4 F 850501

COMP: Southfield 821129
- 830520
Lewiston 861000
Woodhaven 870824
Detroit 890600
Lansing 900527
Taylor -

-Pinned under automatic door, injured skull and spine.
-Pinned under automatic garage door.
-Running in and out of garage when door pinned her to ground.
-Garage door opens and closes at random.
-Short in door opener chord fell and ignited a chair.
-Garage door opener does not work correctly.
-Automatic door does not retract when it hits an object.
-Automatic garage door will not reverse.
-Support bar on automatic door bent causing door to fail.
-Support rod on garage door broke.

MINNESOTA

DTHS: Eden Prairie 9 F 881005

Roseville 10 M 881005
Farmington 6 F 890627
Alberta Lea 87 891230

INJ: Lafayette 41 M 830700
St. Peter 45,43 M,F 870806

COMP: Blaine 6 M 880426
Minnetonka 4 M 890320
Cedar 820526
Browntown 830826
May Township 880920
North Oaks 881218
Fairmont 890130
Waverly 891007
Burnsville 910202
Crystal 900605
Jamesville 900712
Rochester 911107
Cannon Falls 911126

-Child pinned and crushed to death by automatic garage door.
-Riding bike, hit by automatic door and crushed to death.
-Automatic garage door struck and killed a young female.
-Pinned to garage floor by door equipped with automatic opener.
-Fire caused by automatic garage door injured adult.
-Husband and wife injured when door opener ignited gas fumes.
-Knocked down and pinned by automatic garage door opener.
-Automatic garage door trapped and crushed a child.
-Automatic reverse on door is inoperative.
-Propane in garage was ignited by electric door opener.
-Barn fire caused by faulty door opener.
-Automatic door pinned a 65 lb. dog to the ground.
-Garage door opener caused a building fire.
-Garage fire caused by overheated electric door opener.
-Automatic door came down on and crushed car window.
-Automatic door closed on an object and did not reopen.
-Faulty automatic door may have started house fire.
-Automatic garage door failed to reverse.
-Fire may have been started by malfunctioning automatic garage door opener.

MISSISSIPPI

INJ: Olive Branch - M 890100
COMP: Jackson 910319

-Man injured tightening screw on overhead garage door.
-Automatic door came down and hit the car.

MISSOURI

DTHS:	Kansas City	6	M	830904	-Child hung by rope of garage door equipped with auto opener.
INJ:	Kansas City	-	F	840221	-Spring on automatic door broke, door crushed toe.
COMP:	Kansas City			860900	-Automatic opener continues to run after door is opened.

NEBRASKA

DTHS:	North Platte	2	M	850611	-Chest compression death by automatic garage door opener.
	Omaha	6	F	910813	-Pinned under automatic garage door.
INJ :		2	M	820809	-Child received cuts and abrasions, pinned under automatic garage door.
	Scottsbluff	5	M	840925	-Child trapped under electric garage door.
	-	2	M	820809	-Child injured while pinned under automatic garage door.
	Lincoln	2	F	881017	-Electric door pinned a child on her back for 2 minutes.
	Lincoln	8	M	920631	-Trapped under automatic garage door at neighbor's house.
COMP:	Glenwood			831111	Neighbor disconnected door opener to release child.
					-Propane leak was ignited by relay on automatic door.

NEVADA

DTHS:	Las Vegas	9	M	820324	-Child asphyxiated while trapped beneath garage door.
COMP:	Las Vegas			850713	-A short in garage door opener caused a townhouse fire.

NEW JERSEY

DTHS:	Summit	9	M	830213	-Child died of cardiac arrest, found under automatic door.
COMP:	Old Tappan			920401	-An automatic garage door opener did not stop when signaled.

NEW YORK

DTHS:	Pittsford	6	M	821030	-An automatic garage door crushed the chest of a child.
	Syracuse	62	M	871111	-An adult was trapped under an automatic garage door.
	Southold	5	M	910101	-Playing with remote control when door came down on his neck.
INJ:	Newburgh	-	M	870524	-Man's hand was hurt when automatic door failed to reverse.
	Binghamton	7	M	880826	-Contusion on back and chest by automatic garage door.
COMP:	Poughkeepsie			820302	-A garage door closed on a car.
	Johnstown			841230	-Overhead garage door opener blamed for fire.
	Scarsdale			880000	-Fire due to faulty belt drive of automatic garage door.
	Orchard Park			881206	-Automatic door would close up to a 1/2 hour after activated.

NEW YORK (continued)						
Orchard Park	910305					-A fire was caused by the control module of an automatic door.
Lewiston	910722					-Automatic garage door failed to reverse.
East Northport	920417					-Garage door opener has no reversing mechanism and cannot be modified..
NORTH CAROLINA						
COMP: Chapel Hill	910722					-Cat's neck got caught between top of door and door frame.
NORTH DAKOTA						
INJ: Minot	840416	-				-Electric garage door's wiring malfunctioned.
COMP: Cavalier	820304					-Rollers of garage door with auto opener came off track.
OHIO						
DTHS: Dayton	4	M	820615			-Automatic garage door without auto reverse crushed a child.
Amherst	3	F	830904			-Crushed by automatic garage door while playing with control.
Findlay	4	M	840414			-Automatic garage door trapped a child by the neck.
Greenville	3	M	840804			-A child was pinned beneath an electric garage door opener.
Forest Park	8	F	880119			-A child died of asphyxiation when trapped under auto door.
Vandalis	43	F	891230			-Victim was struck repeatedly by automatic garage door.
Perry Twp	6	F	840307			-Electric door caught and lifted child off the ground.
Wooster			840900			-Electric garage door opener may have caused a fire.
Lorain			870320			-Automatic door failed to stop after reaching closed position.
Cleveland			880726			-Electric door began going through cycles by itself.
OKLAHOMA						
DTHS: Claremore	2	M	850104			-Automatic door closed on the neck of a child.
Oklahoma Cty	8	M	850720			-Child died when auto door trapped him to the driveway.
INJ: Ardmore	10	M	901027			-Burn caused by a short circuit in an extension cord hooked up to the opener.
COMP: Oklahoma City			850909			-Electric garage door opener was the cause of a fire.
Chickasha			860703			-Automatic door's opener reversal mechanism failed.

OREGON

DTHS: Bend 7 M 880417 -Child died of asphyxia while entrapped by automatic door.
INJ: Aloha 9 M 920512 -Reversing mechanism failed. Door pinned victim's head against garage floor.

PENNSYLVANIA

DTHS: Bethany 5 M 851106 -A child was entrapped under an automatic garage door.
Lowermake- 5 M 920518 -Died of injuries suffered when struck by electrically field controlled garage door.
INJ: Hershey 2 M 820000 -Bruises received from faulty automatic garage door.
- 24 M 890410 -Electric shock while working on garage door opener.
Honeybrook 43 M 900603 -Fingers fractured after getting them caught in automatic door.
Allison 41 M 911213 -Attaching arm fell and hit consumer.
Park
COMP: Johnstown 820809 -Automatic garage door's light is continuously on.
North Hampton 830321 -Automatic door closed on a van backing out of garage.
Summit Twp 840611 -Fire started in garage door opener.
Wallingford 860919 -Spring on garage door opener fails when extended.
Ardmore 880000 -Condo fire caused by overheated garage door opener.
Yardley 890300 -Automatic garage door suddenly came down on a car.

PUERTO RICO

DTHS: San Juan 12 M 900409 -Automatic gate entrapped child by chest and neck.

SOUTH DAKOTA

INJ: Watertown 10 M 910320 -Struck by garage door and pinned down. Victim was freed before serious injury.
COMP: Sioux Falls 860918 -Automatic garage door opener was found smoking.
Milbank 880726 -Garage door opener malfunctioned causing a fire.

TENNESSEE

COMP: Mt. Carmel 81 and 85 -On two occasions automatic door closed by itself.

TEXAS

DTHS: El Paso 87 F 821130 -Adult fatally injured when hit by automatic garage door.
San Antonio 6 M 870317 -Automatic door pinned a child to the ground.
Lubbock 4 M 870925 -Child died from blow from automatic garage door.
Dallas 3 M 881014 -Caught by neck under automatic garage door.
Texarkana 14 M 881102 -Electric door closure against lower spine.
INJ: Bryan 3 F 890409 -Riding automatic door up, fell off, sustained concussion.
Allen 211 M 910613 -Trapped under automatic garage door.
- 14 M 890824 -Electric shock from an automatic door track short.

TEXAS (continued)

COMP:	Alvin	880912	-Automatic door failed to stop when it hit a piece of wood.
	Mesquite	890529	-Automatic door without reversing device caused stress on springs causing door to fall onto car.
	Lewisville	910427	-Automatic garage door came down on garbage can.
	Irving	920307	-An overloaded wiring system connected to garage door opener caused a house fire.

UTAH

DTHS:	Layton	2	M	880912	-Trapped under automatic door, died 2 days later.
	Coalville	8	M	890502	-Died from chest compression by electric garage door.
INJ:	Salt Lake City	-	M	890731	-A man died as a result of a garage door malfunction.
	Salt Lake City	6	M	820000	-A child suffered brain damage when auto reverse failed.
	Salt lake City	2	M	830326	-Defective garage door opener pinned child beneath.

VIRGINIA

DTHS:	Falls Church	3	M	841222	-Automatic garage door pinned a child by the neck.
INJ:	Fairfax	47	M	821008	-Caught hand in automatic garage door.
	Great falls	-	M	830711	-Automatic garage door activated by child, injuring hands.

WASHINGTON

DTHS:	Spokane	5	M	820910	-Trapped beneath automatic door, died of anoxia.
	Seattle	7	M	901121	-Pinned by garage door.
INJ:	Kent	2	F	830817	-Automatic door failed to reverse and trapped child.
	Bellevue	-	M	840526	-Consumer was adjusting automatic door when spring flew off.
	Eatonville	4	M	920108	-Ran under garage door as it was closing. Knocked down, sustaining minor injuries.
COMP:	Bothell			870517	-Electric short in garage door opener ignited house.
	Redmond			900818	-Capacitor of automatic door shorted while adjusting.
	Bothell			910814	-Door would not reverse when tested with piece of wood.

WISCONSIN

DTHS:	Green Bay	3	M	840910	-Automatic door closed on child's neck, fatal injuries.
	Milwaukee	6	M	860525	-Pinned by neck to floor by automatic garage door.
	West Bend	4	M	870902	-Hung by rope attached to automatic garage door.
INJ:	-	5	M	820310	-Automatic door without auto reverse pinned child.
	Oshkosh	3	F	830923	-Trapped beneath electrically operated garage door.
	Madison	82	F	850919	-Hit on forehead by lowering automatic garage door.
	Mequion	5	M	880611	-Struck and pinned by automatic door while running in garage.

WISCONSIN (continued)

COMP: Grand Chute	830809	-Duplex fire caused by electric garage door opener.
Wausau	851101	-Auto door came down on consumer without being activated.
Deperre	860523	-Automatic door did not reverse on several occasions.
Menomonee Falls	870112	-Improperly operating garage door caused a fire.
Cleveland	870925	-Garage door opener continues to jam.
Pell Lake	880622	-Consumer believes hinges on auto door are designed wrong.
Janesville	890308	-Garage fire caused by defective automatic door.
Racine	891009	-House fire blamed on electric garage door opener.

WYOMING

COMP: Laramie	831226	-House fire due to automatic garage door opener.
---------------	--------	--

Source:

Newspaper Clippings and Consumer Complaints (IPII)
In-Depth Investigations (INDP)
Updated Data on Automatic Garage Door
Closure/Entrapment Deaths, Injuries and Complaints,
October 1989, December 1991.
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
Directorate for Epidemiology, EPHA