

CONTACT: Ann Stilp at (920) 475-1880

astilp@ariens.com

news release

Recall Background: Ariens Compact Sno-Thro & Power Brush

— Most machines corrected prior to sale to consumers —

Brillion, Wis. (**April 24, 2014**) – Ariens Company has responded to a Recall issued today by the Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) for 5,757 snowthrowers and power brushes due to the possibility of a drive pulley cracking while in use and causing the auger/impeller or brush to continue to rotate after the clutch lever is disengaged.

Ariens Company reported the issue to the CPSC within 24 hours of discovery, and requested a fast-track recall. "Working with the CPSC, we have been able to correct 66 percent of the units to date," says Dan Ariens, Company President. "Progress continues on a daily basis and we are working diligently to cover the remaining units."

Most of the machines were repaired while still inventoried in distribution centers, and prior to retail purchase by consumers, according to Ariens.

The units include certain Ariens Compact Sno-Thro® machines, Sno-TekTM snowthrowers and Ariens® and Gravely® All-Season PB28 Power Brushes. The specific models and serial numbers have been identified and customers should visit the Ariens Company website <u>recall page</u> to

determine whether their particular unit is subject to the recall. To locate the model and serial number of a unit, customers can refer to the white label which is affixed to the lower rear of the product.

All customers with affected units who registered their purchases with Ariens Company have been notified to bring their units to an authorized Ariens dealer for inspection and/or repair. If a unit is included in the recall and has a black check mark on the identification plate, it has been repaired.

If customers have questions regarding whether their machine is involved in this recall, they are urged to contact Ariens Company at (877) 740-7060. It is suggested that consumers have their model and serial number available when calling.

"This is a good opportunity to remind customers of the importance of registering their power equipment with the manufacturer who produces it," says Company President, Dan Ariens. "It is the most effective way to be kept up-to-date on any important information related to your product."

Ariens® and Gravely® equipment can be registered online at the <u>Ariens Product Registration Page</u> or <u>Gravely Product Registration Page</u>. The online process will help customers properly identify the model number and serial number required to register a product.

Established in 1933 in Brillion, Wis., Ariens Company is a leading manufacturer of outdoor power equipment for both consumer and professional use. The company's premium international brands include Ariens Sno-Thro[®] and Ariens lawn and garden products for consumers; Countax[®] and Westwood[®] lawn tractors; and Gravely[®] and Parker[®] commercial equipment for the landscape management, facilities maintenance and sports field sectors. The company's Specialty Brands serving niche outdoor markets include Gempler's®, Ben Meadows®, AW Direct®, Stens® and J. Thomas. Ariens Company employs more than 1,500 people, with operations in Wisconsin, Nebraska, Indiana, Michigan, the United Kingdom, Norway and Australia. Visit www.AriensCo.com for more information.