

Safety Advisory

Office of Health, Safety and Security
Office of Corporate Safety Programs, HS-31

Advisory No. 01-F2011

March 2011

This safety advisory is issued by the Office of Corporate Safety Programs, HS-31, Federal Employee Occupational Safety and Health (FEOSH) Program for the guidance and protection of all Office of Health, Safety and Security (HSS) employees. If you or your organization is interested in receiving other advisories when issued, please contact the HSS FEOSH office at: 301-903-6991.

Possible Hazard: Potential tip-over and fall hazard involving pedestal based chairs with four legs and casters on each leg of the chair.

Name of Product(s): No specific product name or manufacturer. Hazard involves any pedestal based chairs with four-legs and casters on each leg.

Description of Product: Pedestal based chairs with four legs and casters on each leg of the chair.

Manufacturer: No specific manufacturer identified.

Incidents/Injuries: Falls have been reported due to employees leaning while seated in the chair and from employees tipping the chair backwards to raise the front of the chair.

Description: One of the most widely used pieces of office furniture is the chair. In this case, pedestal based chairs with four legs and casters on each leg of the chair are particularly hazardous. The pedestal based chairs with four legs and casters on each leg are not as stable as chairs with five or more legs. When seated and leaning to reach items to the extreme side of your position, these chairs are more prone to sliding or slipping from underneath you causing you to fall.

Required Action: Please examine your office space and identify all pedestal based chairs with four legs and casters on each leg of the chair. These chairs should be clearly labeled as surplus equipment and the proper forms filled out for removing the chairs. The directions in HSS SOP-01-09, Rev 0, *Government Personal Property Management* should be followed including the use of Property Transfer/Turn-In form, HQ Form 1400.18, which documents the disposal (excess) of these chairs.

Contact: For additional information, contact Sherry Main at sherry.main@eh.doe.gov or Bert Davis at bertrand.davis@hq.doe.gov

