

PRODUCT SAFETY CHECK

Design defects in product liability lawsuits arise when a product does not work as the ordinary consumer would expect when used in its intended manner or in a reasonably foreseeable misuse or, alternately when the design's benefits are outweighed by its inherent risks.

Risk/benefit analysis through the evaluation of excessive potential preventable danger	
Question	Answer
1) What is the intended and foreseeable use and application of this product?	
2) What is the foreseeable environment of the product's use?	
3) What is the foreseeable user population?	
4) Postulate all possible hazards including estimates of probability of occurrence and the seriousness of the resulting harm (Hazard Analysis)	
5) How does the product meet the expectation of the ordinary consumer?	
6) What alternative design features, safety devices, manufacturing processes, quality control und inspection procedures, warnings and instructions could reduce or eliminate the risk?	
7) How will the alternative designs affect the safety and performance of the product, including the following: - other hazards that may be introduced by the alternatives - their effect on the subsequent usefulness of the product - their effect on the ultimate cost of the product - technological feasibility of mass producing the product with the alternative design features	
8) Are other and safer products to meet the same needs available?	