Sony Recalls VAIO Laptop Computers Due to Burn Hazard

Written by DNR Sunday, 04 July 2010 13:39 -

This involves about 2 models and about 233,000 units! The recalled products are VPCF11 Series and VPCCW2 Series notebook computers. This is blamed on a temperature management system in the BIOs, and requires a firmware update.

So far the heat only causes distortion of the keyboard and case, but could cause burns on a user.

Sony Sez: In rare instances, these notebook computers may overheat due to a potential malfunction of the internal temperature management system, resulting in deformation of the products keyboard or external casing, and a potential burn hazard to consumers.

If you have one of the VPCF11 or VPCCW2 series models, Sony recommends that you download and install a firmware update specifically designed to prevent the potential overheating symptom.

DNR - This is interesting as a malicious hacker could exploit this flaw, and instead re-write a firmware update that could use the overheating flaw to cause damage to hardware or even a person!

Sold at: Best Buy, Costco, Frys, Amazon.com and Sony Style retail stores and sonystyle.com as well as other electronics retailers and business suppliers nationwide. The recalled computers were shipped to consumers and resellers between January 2010 and April 2010. They sold for between \$800 and \$1,500.

https://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml10/10284.html