

Woman Badly Injured by Exploding Computer Chair

Yu Tang



On 11th May, 24 year old Ms. Liu in Xiamen, Fujian of China, was sitting in front of her computer when her air-lift chair suddenly 'exploded'.

She suffered terrible injuries to her lower body from thick iron springs; scattered screws, and her intestines and vagina were pierced by steel rod.

According to *Dongnan Daily News*, doctors at Zhongshan Hospital removed over 20 pieces of steel from Ms Liu's body and she is now out of danger.

Woman Badly Injured by Exploding Computer Chair

Yu Tang



Mr. Li's younger brother, Li Yin, showing the chair that exploded. (screenshot)



Guard of the hospital holding the napkin that was used to wipe the blood from the victim's face. (screenshot)

Unable to trace manufacturer

The chair only had a "Xingqiang" sticker on one of the legs, but no information about the manufacturer.

Neighbors told Dongnan news, that they thought it was a gas stove explosion. One of the neighbours even called the emergency to inform them of a gas stove explosion. When they found out was the chair explosion, they were even more concerned as they think that the chair from where they working place is the similar type.

According to *Dongnan Daily News* that a person from within the industry revealed that there are 3 types of air-lift chairs on the market: hydraulic pressured, mechanical and gas pressured. The majority of the low cost product range is gas pressured. But some manufacturers even just fill with high pressured air to lower the costs, and that will be likely to cause an explosion.

The Liu family told Chinese media, they had found the shop where they bought the chair, but since they have not kept the receipt, they may not able to seek legal compensation for this tragedy.

Change my chair now!



After the news spread on the web, many office workers immediately changed their airlift chairs to simple chairs. (Screenshot from Dongnan Daily News)

Many more cases in the past!

Woman Badly Injured by Exploding Computer Chair

Yu Tang

Chair explosion in China is not new and there are a number of reports of previous chair explosions:

1. On 20th April, 2007, in Dinghai district, Zhoushan town of Zhejiang province, the chair on which Ms. Lou was sitting exploded; plastic pieces, timber splinters, and metal washers pieced her body to a depth of 100mm deep.
2. On 26th November 2007, a 68 years old man was badly injured in similar circumstances.
3. On 26th March 2008, the chair in front of Mr Lin's computer suddenly exploded while Lin was beside it. Mr. Lin's back and arms were injured and an 150mm long steel rod was ejected and hit the ceiling.
4. On 14th January 2009, in Jiaozuo, Shandong province, a 14 year old boy, Xiao Gang (not his real name) was killed by his exploding chair.

Doctors told the media that similar explosions had happened on 3 occasions in that month.