



THE KANGAROO JUMPER SAFETY FACTS

NO COMPARISON TO THE OTHER PRODUCTS

*This is a complete and factual analysis of why the Kangaroo Jumper is the safest item in the playground today. The Kangaroo Jumper is **NOT a 'Jumping Pillow'!***

HISTORY:

The Kangaroo Jumper was developed in the USA in 2010 by Gary Wakerley who had up until that time distributed the Jumping Pillow product throughout North and South America. After years of being uncomfortable with the safety features of the Jumping Pillow product, he launched the now famous Kangaroo Jumper. The new design of the Kangaroo Jumper was an effort to upgrade the products safety and longevity aspects to meet or exceed the requirements of Insurance companies, and to provide a longer lasting and safer product to the industries it served.

From the sale of the first Jumping Pillow in the USA, Gary Wakerley required the purchasers by agreement to keep records of injury and/or complaint and notify the parent company. It was that foresight that enabled problems to be accurately identified and solutions to the problems formulated. There were four main areas of concern that became evident in the early days.

1. If the 'Hard Edge' (covered by a depth of sand for landing safety) became exposed, then foot, ankle and knee injuries became prevalent. Overwhelmingly, **this was the main cause of injury.**
2. If the Jumper was overloaded with too many participants, then **Big People were hurting little people** because they were jumping too close to one another.
3. People **who ort not be jumping** were jumping and injuries resulted. These people mainly included Overweight and Obese people and Brittle Boned people.
4. The height and steepness of the Jumper became increased over time as the holding apparatus underground relocated upward – this often occurred in areas where a water table was present or after heavy or prolonged rain, and when the installation was in a sandy area. Steep sides of the jumper made embarking awkward and awkward situations often resulted in injury (especially when landing on an exposed hard edge from the increased height).

The first design of the Kangaroo Jumper addressed these three problem areas in the following ways:

1. It was found that although grounds men at the Caravan Parks knew that a sufficient covering of sand was necessary, they had no way of accessing the depth of sand until the hard edge was actually exposed. **The Kangaroo Jumper incorporated a 'Sand Depth Indicator' so that grounds men could see at a glance if an area of the jumper needed attention. This proved to be invaluable and the drastic reduction in injuries was immediate.**
2. To tackle the problem of too many people on the Jumper. **Specific Jumping Rules were formulated and signage upgraded so that it became virtually impossible not to see and know the rules of jumping. Because of this added signage, the problem became largely self-policing by participants and those watching the participants.**

3. A medical warning sign was developed by Lawyers which appeared actually printed on all Kangaroo Jumper. This warning deters those with various medical conditions from participating in jumping activities. In Australia we now print this warning onto an external sign where it is difficult not to be noticed.
4. Alternative installation methods were designed to eliminate the problem of holding apparatus movement causing steepness and growth in height. These install methods have proven to be very successful in eliminating the problem and a Kangaroo Jumper is installed at low-level and remains at a low-level.

The Rules of Jumping	Kangaroo Jumper is Low Level	Legal Warning Sign
		

Over the course of time there were other notable jumping conditions where No Injuries (even minor) occurred at all and they included the following:

1. The Indoor Kangaroo Jumper had never been responsible for an injury, even minor.
2. The Jumpers installed within the Agri-Tourism Industry (Farm Tourism) had never been responsible for an injury, even minor.
3. The Jumpers installed into the Day Camp and Summer Camp Industry had never been responsible for an injury, even minor.

The reasons that these specific industries recorded no injury was easily identified as there is a common management practice that exists when compared to the management practices of Caravan Parks and in the case of the Indoor Kangaroo Jumper, the method of covering the hard edge differed from that of an outdoor Jumper.

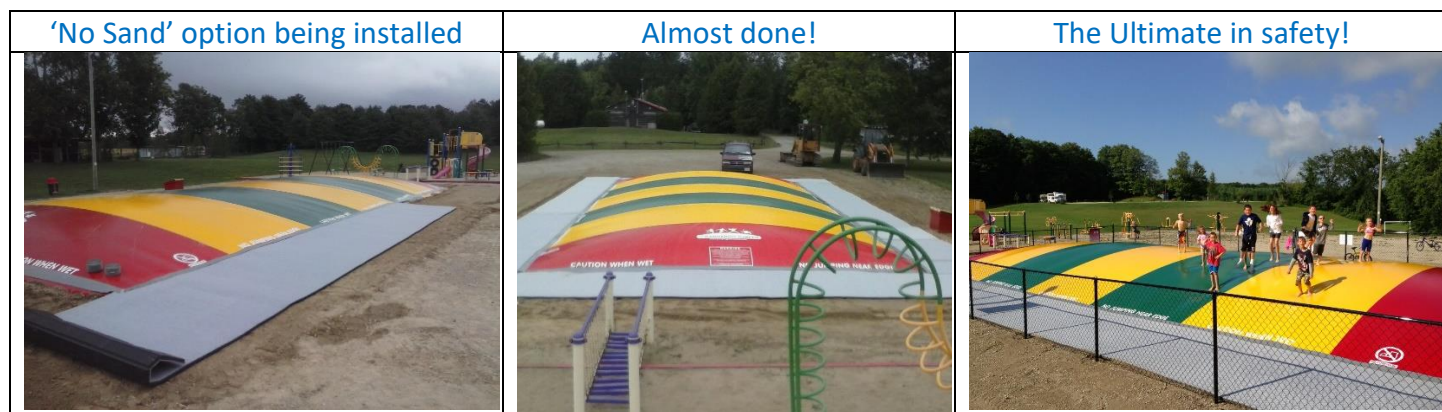
1. The Indoor Kangaroo Jumper uses Carpeted Cross-linked Foam to cover the hard edge, it is permanently attached to the Jumper and requires no maintenance to keep it in place. The result is no Hard-Edge injury whatsoever. The Indoor Family Entertainment facilities using the Kangaroo Jumper also employ a floor walker to supervise activity and ensure that rules are not flouted.

2. The Agri-tourism industry in the USA is seasonal and businesses cater to large numbers of visitors over a short space of time. Such is the popularity of the Kangaroo Jumper; the activity is fully supervised. Numbers of participants on the Jumper never exceed safe levels and rules of jumping are not broken.
3. The Day Camp and Summer Camp Industries cater to large numbers of children and they are broken down into groups of 25 to 30 and a supervisor is appointed to each group. The supervisor ensures that the group jump within the rules of jumping.

Reaction

With safety being at the forefront of our product development, ignoring these facts was not an option! Coincidentally another problem emerged from the Campground Industry at the same time and that was that those who had swimming pools or splash pads close to their Jumper were experiencing clogged water filters repeatedly. Children were going from one activity to another, their wet bodies were picking up sand from the jumper and then depositing it in the swimming pool. To eliminate this problem, I developed the outdoor Kangaroo Jumper 'No Sand' option. This option made use of the same hard edge covering that we were using on the Indoor Jumper. Apart from instantly fixing the 'sand in the pool filter' problem, we had unwittingly created a totally maintenance free Jumper that also elevated the aesthetic value of the Jumper.

Furthermore, and after several months, **those who had replaced their regular model with the 'No Sand' option reported a drastic decrease in minor injury. In fact, it was virtually nil. So, our marketing of the new product from that point onwards highlighted this newly discovered safety feature.**



Supervision of playground activity, whilst being recognized as the optimum answer to safety, is not always practical, especially in the Caravan and Campground Industries. The parks do have ground staff though and often the playground can be seen from the reception areas. We at Kangaroo Jumper overhauled our safety education program within the Caravan and Campground Industry to the extent that after and on the day of installation we insist on ALL park staff joining our installers for a hands-on safety demonstration which highlights exactly how injuries may occur and how each staff member can become a safety officer without encumbering their prime responsibilities.

This program is now years old in the USA and the positive results are highly significant. With over 2500 Kangaroo Jumpers in the USA, Canada and South America, in 2019 there was one injury that resulted in litigation. That litigation was over a broken arm and there is much conjecture over exactly how the injury occurred, the litigation was not successful. In 2020, 21, 22 and 2023 there were no cases. This information is based on the fact that when litigation occurs the plaintiff always includes the manufacturer or distributor in the law suit.

There is no doubt that the kangaroo Jumper is the safest 'high activity' playground item found in commercial playgrounds. Our track record of being both reactive and pro-active to safety issues and product development has paid large dividends to all involved.

The Australian Scene

There are approximately 1000 Outdoor Jumpers in Australia and overwhelmingly the product known as The Jumping Pillow represents 90% of the market. The Kangaroo Jumper has been represented in Australia incompetently for 4 years through distributors who have not embraced the parent company's manufacturing and safety philosophy completely. That all changed when the owner Gary Wakerley (an Australian) made the decision to take charge of the products manufacture and distribution. The effects of the Corona Virus have stalled distribution progress; however, things are starting to move in the right direction now.

We fully understand the frustrations of the Insurance Industry and the unacceptable level of claims that some Insurance companies have endured with other Jumping products. The frustration is not of our doing or related to our product in any way, and our charter is to bring to the Australian market the same level of product safety that is currently enjoyed in the America's and Great Britain. To do this we must first connect with Insurers and have them understand and appreciate that there are major differences between the Kangaroo Jumper and other like products. Ultimately, our 'No Sand' product is the better choice and it is that product we intend to steer the Caravan Park Industry toward. We seek to not share the same unfair characterization as other jumping products.

Video surveillance

For 14 of our 19 years of manufacturing and distributing Jumpers in the USA, we have promoted the use of Video Surveillance of Commercial Playgrounds. Those Campgrounds who have it ALL report that incidences in their Playgrounds that are reported to them are never reported accurately by the person reporting the incident or injury, and upon viewing of the video tape by the Campground owner and the person reporting, most claims are dropped on the spot!

In this day and age, everybody wants to sue and I am perplexed as to why the Insurance Industry does not absolutely insist on Video Surveillance being installed as a condition of Insurance. It most certainly would cause in a reduction of claims – **that is a proven fact!** Playsafe Products Pty. Ltd (the owner of the brand 'Kangaroo Jumper') will most certainly promote the use throughout the Australian Caravan Park Industry.

Comments from a Big4 Caravan Park

Gayle & Craig Gudgeon manage the BIG4 Renmark Riverfront Holiday Park in SA and they explained that they were plagued with injury on their Jumper right from the start. Their situation was unique in that the main cause of injury was from people landing on sticks that had fallen into the sand from overhanging trees. Even constant raking of the sand to remove the debris did little to eliminate the problem. Their Pillow lasted 3 years and their replacement was a Kangaroo Jumper 'No Sand' option. As Craig explained "Injury stopped immediately! And the other big bonus is that there is no sand maintenance". He went on to say that "We simply blow off the debris each morning with a leaf blower and anything that lands on the surround during the day is seen and avoided".

Gayle & Craig have estimated that the choice of the Kangaroo Jumper has also saved them 20 hours per week in maintenance time and, the Kangaroo Jumper is approaching the 5-year mark and still going strong! "Sure! It costs more to have the 'No Sand' model but the benefits are very real and all of our problems including injury problems have simply gone away" he said.

Note: The material used to replace the sand is Carpeted Crosslinked Foam. This is traditionally a Gymnastic floor product and used at the Olympics for Tumbling among other gymnastic activities. The material has a 2-metre fall rating.




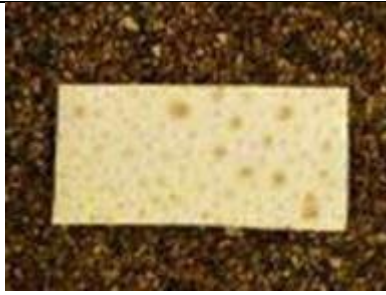
Embrace the ‘Kangaroo Jumper’

We’re asking all Insurance companies to NOT lump the Kangaroo Jumper into the same basket as the other products and we hope that this presentation of facts goes a long way in helping the readers fully understand why they shouldn’t. The Jumper has become one of the backbones of playground activity throughout the Caravan Park Industry and the industry does not want to lose the ability to insure it!

Should an insurance company embrace the Kangaroo Jumper then the parks will embrace that Insurance company! With total respect to the Insurance Industry, it is a fact that loyalty to one insurance company or another is negated when it means the difference between having a Kangaroo Jumper or not.

The latest advancement by Playsafe Products Pty. Ltd.

From May 2020, the Kangaroo Jumper worldwide introduced its new canvas. The new canvas provides Antimicrobial & Antifungal protection which does not erode or wear-away, providing long-lasting peace of mind. **This** is an innovative and exclusive product improvement where both Antimicrobial and Antifungal additives provide a cleaner, safer surface for our children. See the difference below!

The NEW material - NO bacteria or fungal growth.	Standard Material - Bacterial and fungal growth after 90 days
	

This is a clear demonstration of our ongoing mission to provide the safest possible play environment to the users of the Kangaroo Jumper, and we are Pro-Active in this endeavor.





Summation

We are meticulous that our statements on our products are facts, all gained from our experiences over 17 years and on the industries we serve.

The writer and owner of Playsafe Products Worldwide and Playsafe Products Pty. Ltd. is available at any time for discussion on these matters and the full contact details follow. It is with sincere thanks that we acknowledge those who have taken the time to read and understand the intricacies and superior safety aspects of our product the Kangaroo Jumper.

Gary Wakerley

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Background

After working in the Caravan Park Industry in Australia for 12 years Gary Wakerley introduced the Jumping Pillow into the USA in 2004. He later went on to develop the Kangaroo Jumper because there was a need to incorporate change! There was a need to extend the life of the product and there was a need to improve the safety aspects of the product. The Kangaroo Jumper is now available in Australia through his his company Playsafe Products Pty. Ltd., all manufacturing of the product is managed by PlaySafe Products Pty. Ltd. There is no one else in the world more experienced or more knowledgeable on all aspects of this type of product than Gary Wakerley.

2500 sales - 2500 Installations – 2500 Very Happy Clients Worldwide

Finally, I would ask that the main players who offer Insurance of Caravan Parks across Australia look carefully at what my product is offering and to be accepting of insuring those Caravan Parks who add the 'Kangaroo Jumper' to their playground.

It is also our endeavor to start a process of educating Caravan Park Owners across Australia in 'Good Management Practices' that will positively impact on drastically reducing injuries in their playgrounds. Through the CIA and the various State Owners Associations we hope to be able to present 'Playground Safety' workshops at their annual Conventions and Trade Shows. The process of direct communication on the subject with the Caravan Parks has started and will continue vigorously until the Convention schedule returns to normal.

Sincerely

Gary Wakerley

Owner – Playsafe Products Pty. Ltd.



Feature Comparison

While our opposition appears to have adopted the policy of 'If it's not broken don't fix it' we have over the years taken a different course. Our attitude is and has always been to be pro-active in the development and improvement of the product.

Whilst we have not changed the mechanical properties of the product, we have impacted significantly on all aspects of those who use it, manage it and are responsible for it as the following details show.

		The Opposition Product	Reserved for the next kid on the block!
Antimicrobial & Antifungal	✓	No	
Solid Warranty	✓	No	
No Sand Option	✓	No	
Anti Litigation Signage	✓	No	
Full Term Printing	✓	No	
Sand Depth Indicator	✓	No	
Diverse Install Methods	✓	No	
Insurance	✓	✓	
AS Certification	✓	✓	
Long Lasting Material	✓	✓ ?	