

Engineering ethics violations continue to be a big problem, especially since they affect so many people. One such violation was committed by the company FutureMotion. FutureMotion was founded with a kick-starter by an engineer named Kyle Doerksen to make a mono-wheel'ed personal electric vehicle, a device they coined as the 'OneWheel'(Yakowitz, n.d.). Due to the form factor of the device, there's no way a safety mechanism can be implemented that explicitly brings the rider to a stop; any attempt to do so will throw the rider forward. The solution then is to make the board 'influence' the rider to slow down when the limits of the device are being reached. This issue has caused concern and is currently the reason for a current recall on all of the boards, but this is not the issue I'm going to talk about(Ashworth, 2020). I'm going to talk about a more specific and severely worse issue that has flown under the radar of the CPSC and is also one that FutureMotion has completely ignored. On a specific model of their product, the Pint-X, an upgraded version of the Pint in which almost all that was changed was just accommodating a larger battery, an inherent design flaw was noticed by the community where the housing for the batter can rub and, in severe cases, completely sever the battery terminals(*Pint X Wiring Flaw Tracking*, n.d.). This is extremely bad for a device capable of propelling a human up to 20mph that will drop, almost eject, the rider if it loses power. This issue has been known and concerns have been voiced to FutureMotion since early 2022 but the company has chosen to ignore these concerns. I personally, someone who owns and greatly enjoys riding OneWheels, would really love to see this issue addressed; I would also love to see the company as a whole become a lot more open to the community with their practices and techniques. Instead, the company has been incredibly closed to the community and have been actively locking down features and capabilities of their products and it's companion app.

Ashworth, B. (2020, January 27). *Seriously, It's Time to Lean Into Monowheels*. Wired.

<https://www.wired.com/story/one-wheeled-vehicles-micromobility/>

*Pint X Wiring Flaw Tracking*. (n.d.). Pintxflaw. Retrieved October 2, 2023, from

<https://www.pintxflaw.com/>

Yakowitz, W. (n.d.). *The Next Best Thing to a Real Life Hoverboard*. Inc.com; Inc.com.

<https://www.inc.com/will-yakowicz/onewheel-electric-skateboard-video.html>