

Recall Alert

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20207

For Immediate Release
July 22, 2005
Release # 05-xxx DRAFT 6/2/05

Kidde Consumer Hotline: (800) 631-7377
CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772
CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

CPSC, Kidde Announce Recall of Industrial Fire Extinguishers

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. (To access color photos of the following recalled products, see CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov.)

Name of product: Kidde 10 lb. industrial dry chemical fire extinguishers with black plastic Zytel® nylon valves in steel cylinders manufactured between 1991 and 2000.

Units: About 470,000

Manufacturer: Walter Kidde Portable Equipment Inc., of Mebane, N.C.

Hazard: The nylon valves on these extinguishers can separate from the steel cylinder during the 6-year recharge service or shortly afterwards creating a safety hazard to fire extinguisher service personnel and consumers.

Incidents/Injuries: Kidde has received five reports of valve separation during either technical service of the units or shortly afterwards, resulting in three reports of injuries.

Description: This Alert involves all Kidde 10 lb. dry chemical fire extinguishers manufactured with a black plastic Zytel® nylon valve assembly and a steel cylinder between 1991 and 2000. These units were the subject of Kidde Service Bulletin 007 issued on July 21, 2004. These units were designed for commercial and industrial applications, and the vast majority of these units were placed into service in factories, plants, businesses and other commercial locations as they require service by a qualified Fire Extinguisher Distributor or Service Organization every 6 years. A limited number of these units are in use in residential settings. The affected extinguishers have a steel cylinder with a welded neck ring and are between 19 to 21 inches tall as depicted in the image below. This Alert does not apply to Kidde's smaller 2 1/2 and 5 lb. residential fire extinguishers.

Sold at: Commercial fire equipment distributors and stores nationwide between 1991 and 2000.

Manufactured in: United States.

Remedy: Fire Extinguisher Distributors and Service Organizations must immediately stop servicing all units covered under this Alert. Kidde has instituted a Fire Extinguisher Replacement Program ("Replacement Program") for all units covered by this Alert. If you are a Fire Extinguisher Distributor or Service Organization and you have not already received a copy of the Replacement Program, as outlined in Service Bulletin 007, please contact the number below. Only professional Fire Extinguisher Distributors and Service Organizations should remove the affected units and the steps as outlined in the Replacement Program must be followed.

Consumer Contact: Fire Extinguisher Distributors and Service Organizations should contact Kidde at 1-877-777-8170 between 8 AM and 5 PM ET Monday through Friday to participate in Kidde's Replacement Program. Only professional Fire Extinguisher

Distributors and Service Organizations should call this number. Consumers who suspect that they may possess one of the industrial units covered by this Alert should not remove the unit and should contact Kidde at (800) 631-7377 between 8 AM and 5 PM ET Monday through Friday. Units should not be returned to place of purchase. More information can also be obtained by visiting Kidde's Web site at www.kiddeus.com and referencing Kidde Service Bulletin 007 and Recall Alert.

Firm's Media Contact: Emily Lauer, Account Manager, Phone: 216-298-4960, Email: elauer@edwardhoward.com



Affected model – Steel cylinder with welded neck ring & nylon valve – Remove from service

IDENTIFYING THE NON-AFFECTED FIRE EXTINGUISHER



**NON-AFFECTED
10 LB INDUSTRIAL MODEL**

**INCORPORATES ALUMINUM
CYLINDER AND NYLON VALVE**

ALUMINUM CYLINDER HAS TAPERED
NECK AND NO WELDED NECK RING

LEAVE IN SERVICE

Non-affected model – Aluminum cylinder, with nylon valve, has taper neck and no welded neck ring – Leave in service

EXTINGUISHER HEIGHT COMPARISON



The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. The CPSC's 471 employees are committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard or can injure children. The CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products – such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals – contributed significantly to the 30 percent decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years. Deaths, injuries, and property damage from consumer product incidents cost the nation more than \$500 billion annually.

To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270, or visit CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov/talk.html. Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov.

###