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Public Entity Publication

Kidde Fire Extinguisher Recall

We buy fire extinguishers and insurance for the same reason; we hope we never need to use it, but we expect it to function as intended if we do need to use it.

With the upcoming holidays (including decorations such as wreaths/garlands, candles, light strings, extension cords, and other sources of potential fire) it is a little unsettling to see the recent recall announced by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

Last week the CPSC said that 37.8 million fire extinguishers sold in the U.S. can become clogged or require excessive force to discharge and can fail to activate during a fire emergency. In addition, the nozzle can detach with enough force to pose an impact hazard per the CPSC.¹

“There have been approximately 391 reports of failed or limited activation or nozzle detachment, including one fatality, approximately 16 injuries, including smoke inhalation and minor burns, and approximately 91 reports of property damage.” said the CPSC.

The extinguishers were sold at Menards, Montgomery Ward, Sears, Home Depot, Walmart and other stores nationwide sold under both the store brand and Kidde’s own label. Many are used on commercial trucks, recreational vehicles, personal watercraft and boats.

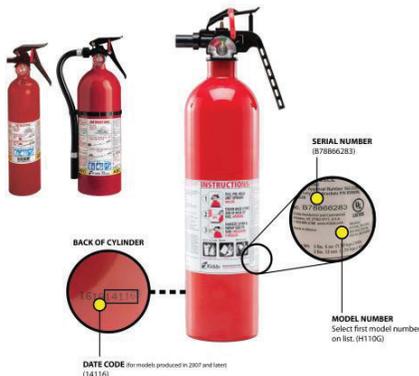
CPSC said the recall involves two styles of Kidde fire extinguishers; plastic handle fire extinguishers and pushbutton Pindicator fire extinguishers (photos shown to left). The recall involves 134 models manufactured between January 1, 1973 and August 15, 2017. Kidde said the extinguishers were sold in red, white and silver, and are either ABC or BC rated.

CPSC said to contact Kidde immediately to request a free replacement fire extinguisher and for instructions on returning the recalled unit.

Kidde can be contacted toll free at 855.271.0773 from 8:30 am to 5 pm ET Monday thru Friday, 9 am to 3 pm ET Saturday and Sunday, or online at www.kidde.com and click on “Product Safety Recall” for more information.

¹<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2018/Kidde-Recalls-Fire-Extinguishers-with-Plastic%20Handles-Due-to-Failure-to-Discharge-and-Nozzle-Detachment-One-Death-Reported>

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Gallagher Public Sector Practice

Corporate Headquarters
2850 W. Golf Road
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008
630.773.3800

www.ajg.com/publicsector

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