

FIRE EXTINGUISHER RECALL

KIDDE® FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

One of the most readily available and least expensive brands of fire extinguishers is Kidde. They are generally available in Walmart, Target, Home Depot, Lowe's and other mass merchandisers. More than likely, it is the brand of extinguisher that you have in your car or home.

A massive recall of 4.6 million Kidde fire extinguishers has been issued by the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission. They have found that the Kidde extinguishers (over thirty different models) may not fully discharge in case of an emergency. The plastic discharge valve appears to be the problem.

Please check the fire extinguishers in your cars, boat, home and shop, and if they are one of the Kidde fire extinguishers listed, replace them at once.

Recall Summary by United States Consumer Products Safety Commission

Name of product: Kidde plastic valve disposable fire extinguishers

Hazard: A faulty valve component can cause the disposable fire extinguishers not to fully discharge when the lever is repeatedly pressed and released during a fire emergency, posing a risk of injury.

Remedy: Replace

Consumer Contact: Kidde toll-free at (855) 283-7991 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or online at www.kidde.com and click on Safety Notice for more information.

Recall Details: Units -About 4.6 million units in the U.S. and 175,000 in Canada.

Description: This recall involves 31 models of Kidde disposable fire extinguishers with Zytel® black plastic valves. The recalled extinguishers are red, white or silver and are either ABC or BC rated. The ratings can be found to the right of the nameplate. Manufacture dates included in the recall are July 23, 2013 through October 15, 2014. A 10-digit date code is stamped on the side of the cylinder, near the bottom. Digits five through nine represent the day and year of manufacture in DDYY format. Date codes for recalled units manufactured in 2013 are XXXX 20413 X through XXXX 36513 X and 2014 are XXXX 00114 X through XXXX 28814 X. A nameplate affixed to the front of the fire extinguisher has one of the following model numbers:

| | | | | |
|----------|-------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| 10BC | FA10G | FH/ RESSP | FX210W | M5 Twin |
| 1A 10BC | FA110 | FX10 | FX340GW | Mariner 10 |
| 1A 10BCW | FA5B | FX10BC | FX340SC | Mariner 110 |
| 2A10BC | FC10 | FX10K | FX5II | Mariner 5 |
| 5BC | FC110 | FX210 | KFH Twin | Mariner 5 G |
| 5BCW | FC5 | FX210R | M110 Twin | RESSP |

We are very proud that we count Amerex-Fire among our advertisers. None of their products have been recalled. You will not find Amerex fire extinguishers in your local Walmart or Target store, or in the large home building supply stores like Lowe's or Home Depot. Amerex extinguishers are built for professional use. You will find them in police cars, ambulances and other professional equipment. Now I have to back-track. I just wrote that you will not find them in Home Depot. That's not precisely true. The new Home Depot near my home has Amerex fire extinguishers mounted throughout the store as emergency safety equipment. So does the new Costco near me. I've mentioned that I am working with our local fire department restoring a 1923 Seagrave fire truck. It has an Amerex extinguisher on board.

They are built for professional use. All of the parts are manufactured in the U.S., and even the valves are machined out of brass and not molded plastic. And, of course, they are U.L. listed. Quality is of the highest calibre, and the variety of products and extinguisher contents is outstanding. They are all rechargeable.

Because they are not sold at the retailers where you generally shop, you will have to telephone or e-mail Amerex-Fire (see ad on page 48) or go to their website, <http://amerex-fire.com> for the name of a dealer near you. They probably cost more, but they are worth it! Why try to save a few dollars when your mult-thousand dollar car or home is at risk? That's foolish economy.

S.K.