



Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation

SAFETY ALERT

Part A,
Part B, &
Part C.

Subject: Tumble Dryers (Hotpoint, Indesit, Creda)

Number: SA 2015/14

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This Safety Alert is to be read by:

1. DIO Service Manager (or equivalent for non NGEC contracts)
2. DIO's Maintenance Management Organisations
3. Others

Others who may be interested in the content of this Safety Alert might include:

Top Level Budget Holders, Prime Contractors, Private Finance Initiatives, Public, Private Partnership and other traditionally procured contracts, Project Managers, Site Estate Authority Teams and Property Managers with responsibility for MOD projects and Property Management Works Services (including the legacy work of EWCs/WSMs), Coordinating Authorising Engineers, Heads of Establishments and site/Regional Health and Safety Advisors.

Summary:-

In rare cases, concerning two types of tumble dryers, excess fluff can come into contact with the heating element and present a risk of fire. The affected brands are: Hotpoint, Indesit, and Creda.

When it takes effect: Immediately

When it is due to expire: When updated or rescinded.

Health and Safety

Aim

1. To bring to the attention of appropriate persons the potential for certain brands of tumble dryer to present a risk of fire and to instigate control measures, collect data, and identify remedial works.

Introduction

2. Compliance with the contents of this Alert will enable compliance with the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and its subordinate Regulations.
3. The appropriate MOD officer shall arrange for and ensure the Maintenance Management Organisation (MMO) contractor to carry out all actions in accordance with this Alert.
4. Any work required as a result of this Safety Alert must be carried out in accordance with JSP 375 Part 2 Volume 3 – High Risk Activities on the Defence Estate.
5. On MOD Establishments occupied by United States Visiting Forces (USVF) responsibility is jointly held by USVF and DIO(USF). At base level this jointly managed organisation is to take appropriate action to implement the contents of this Alert. Where this Alert contains procedures which differ significantly from USVF practice, DIO (USF) code of practice will be issued.

Requirement

Part A.

6. The MMO, on direction from the DIO Service Manager, should initiate the following tasks:
 - a. Locate and identify all Hotpoint, Indesit, and Creda tumble dryers manufactured between April 2004 and September 2015.
 - b. When tumble dryers within the given period are identified the model number and serial number is to be determined and checked via the website (<https://safety.hotpoint.eu/>) to identify if the tumble dryer is affected by the manufacturer's Safety Alert.
 - c. When affected tumble dryers are identified the manufacturer advises they may continue to be used, provided that the appliances are not left unattended whilst operating. Where it is intended to permit the tumble dryer to remain in service, and attended, suitable signage advising the tumble dryer is not to be left unattended whilst in operation is to be attached to the tumble dryer. Where this is not feasible, the tumble dryer is to be removed from service and suitable signage attached to the tumble dryer.
7. Notify the DIO Service Delivery Performance Management Team, DIO SD-Perf Mgt Team (MULTIUSER) account, through their respective DIO Service Manager identifying the location, quantity, model number, serial number, and date of manufacture of **ALL** affected tumble dryers. **A nil return is required from Establishments with no affected tumble dryers.**
8. The data requested at paragraph 7 is required by 8th January 2016 and will be reviewed on the 11th Jan 16.

9. Where defective tumble dryers are identified on an Establishment, the 4Cs risk register should be suitably annotated.

Part B.

10. Where defective tumble dryers have been confirmed via the manufacturer's website arrangements should be made for the manufacturer's service engineer to attend site and modify the appliance.
11. On completion of the remedial work by the manufacturer's service engineer the tumble dryers can be returned to service, or where left in service and attended during operation, and the signage removed.

Part C.

12. The MMO is to notify the DIO Service Delivery Performance Management Team, DIO SD-Perf Mgt Team (MULTIUSER) account, through their respective DIO Service Manager of the date remedial work was undertaken and the tumble dryers returned to service.

Background

13. Following Whirlpool's acquisition of the Hotpoint/Indesit brands, Indesit Company reviewed the safety of its product portfolio. As part of this review, a potential concern with two types of tumble dryers manufactured between April 2004 and September 2015 was identified. The affected brands are: Hotpoint, Indesit, and Creda.
14. An extensive consumer outreach and service action plan has been put in place to provide consumers with products that are updated to higher safety and quality standards. This includes arranging for an engineer, free of charge, to modify the affected appliance. The service call will take approximately one hour. The improvements are considered necessary to further enhance the safety and quality of the tumble dryer.
15. The manufacturer advises consumers may continue to use the tumble dryers, provided the appliances are not left unattended whilst operating. Customers are also reminded of the need for proper cleaning and maintenance, as outlined in the User manual.
16. Reference:
 - a. Website - (<https://safety.hotpoint.eu/>)