

# **SAFETY ALERT**

**PART A** 

Subject: FIRE BLANKET RECALL NOTICE

Number: SA 2015/13

**DIO Sponsor**: Bryan Dunn **Date of issue**: 19 Nov 2015

## Contact if different from above Sponsor:

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Who Should Read this: 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, Authorising Engineers (WaH), Authorised Persons (WaH), Building Custodians, SFA Managers/Occupants, DFRMO Fire Service Personnel.

This Safety Alert does not necessarily cover all aspects of the subject matter and readers should make themselves aware of other potential issues. Readers should also not rely on DIO Safety Alerts as their only means of becoming aware of safety issues, but they should consult widely across other media to maintain awareness.

When it takes effect: Immediately

When it is due to expire: When updated or rescinded.

### Aim

1. To bring to the attention of appropriate persons the recall of this type of Fire Blankets with a potential risk of serious injury, and the need to make checks that appropriate replacements are in place.

#### 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 officers shall arrange for all departments that may use Fire Blankets to carry out all actions in accordance with this Alert.
- 4. 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

- 5. Kidde Safety Europe Ltd has identified a potential safety issue with regard to fire blankets sized 1m² which may impact the fire blankets' effectiveness in the event of an oil pan fire. No reports of any adverse incidents have been received to date. However, testing of certain fire blankets has identified a risk that the affected fire blankets may not fully extinguish an oil pan fire and/or may allow the fire to re-ignite very soon after application of the fire blanket. Accordingly, a recall has been initiated on a precautionary basis to ensure end-user safety.
- 6. If you have one of the potentially affected fire blankets, you must not rely on it for an oil pan fire.
- 7. Where MMOs are responsible for the provision and maintenance of first aid fire appliances, they are to identify if they have any of the potentially affected fire blankets installed and to report the location, number and model type(s) to the point of issue (stores or MMO) for a consolidated exchange with a British Standards Compliant replacement, by arrangement, with Kidde Safety Europe Ltd. Further, DIO MMOs are to notify the DIO Service Delivery Performance Management Team, using the DIO SD-Perf Mgt Team (MULTIUSER) account through their respective DIO Service Manager of the number and location of affected assets. **Nil returns are required**.
- 8. For other buildings, facilities and assets, the occupants, users and/or Building Custodians (as applicable) are to identify if they have any of the potentially affected fire blankets installed and to report the location, number and model type(s) to the point of issue (stores or MMO) for a consolidated exchange with a British Standards Compliant replacement, by arrangement, with Kidde Safety Europe Ltd.
- 9. Should further information or guidance become available, this will issued as a **Part B** to this **Safety Alert**.
- 10. The available data will be reviewed 7 December 2015.

# **Background**

11. The potentially affected fire blankets are 1m<sup>2</sup> in size. The fire blanket containers are labelled with the brand name "Kidde" or "Lifesaver" and are marked with the Kitemark symbol. The Kitemark Licence Number 35021 is also displayed on the container where marked below. The label on the fire blanket refers to "Homesaver".

12. These details can be found on the fire blanket containers as shown in photographs below.



Source: Kidde Safety



Source: Kidde Safety

13. For further information can be obtained from the Kidde Safety helpline on **Freephone 0800 917 0722** or email to admin@kiddesafety.co.uk. The manufacturers recall notice can be found at: www.kiddesafetyeurope.co.uk