



## SAFETY ALERT

## PART A

Subject: Caldervale Technology Fire Hydrant Standpipes

Number: SA 05/15

**DIO Sponsor:** Bryan Dunn

**Date of issue:** 2 July 2015

**Contact if different from above Sponsor:**

Ashley Lineham

Engineering & Construction

**Defence Infrastructure Organisation**

Kingston Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B75 7RL

Tel: 94421 3664 / 0121 311 3664.

Email: [DIOSEE-EngSFSM@mod.uk](mailto:DIOSEE-EngSFSM@mod.uk)

**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), 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**When it is due to expire:** When updated or rescinded.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 failure of a fire hydrant standpipe with a risk of serious injury, and the need to make checks that appropriate safeguards 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 personnel shall arrange for all departments that may use standpipes which connect to hydrants or wash out connections on water mains 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. Following a recent catastrophic failure of a fire hydrant standpipe, the manufacturer (Caldervale Technology) is currently conducting an investigation. Pending the results of this investigation fire hydrant standpipes and fire hydrant standpipe extensions from this manufacturer are to be taken out of service, until further instruction.
6. Further instructions will follow, if required, with the issue of a **Part B** to this Safety Alert once the manufacturer's investigations are concluded.

## Background

7. Recently a contractor was measuring the flow rate from a hydrant outlet using a fire hydrant standpipe provided by the manufacturer above, with a Vernon Morris flow gauge attached, the fire hydrant standpipe suffered a catastrophic failure at the base connection as indicated below, this resulted in a near miss to the operator.
8. After the incident, the damaged fire hydrant standpipe and others from the batch purchased have been returned to the manufacturer for further testing.
9. All personnel are reminded that fire hydrant standpipes and extensions must meet the requirements of BS336 2010 and BS750 2012.

