

# Appendix F



Cache Memorandum No. 01-07



9216 NFES (FC240)

September 11, 2001

**National Fire Equipment System  
Cache Memorandum No. 01-07**

To: NFES: National Incident Support Caches

From: Paul Naman, NFES Representative-NIFC

Subject: Operation of “Safe-T-Way” Gas Can, NFES # 0606

A total of 6,225 DOT approved gas cans (NFES # 0606) manufactured by Safe-T-Way have been procured over the past two years and are now distributed throughout the cache system. The initial order was for 4,000 gas cans. Shortly after introducing the new gas cans into field service a problem was identified of overly slow discharge of fuel from the spout. Several changes in the item specification were subsequently made to address these concerns, and all gas cans purchased after the initial order incorporate these changes. As a result, there are two variations of these gas cans currently in service. The variations are visually indistinguishable, but require a different means of manipulating the spout valve to operate successfully.

The early model gas cans utilize a three-way valve on the spout. On these cans the valve is normally closed in the forward position due to spring tension. When the handle is pulled back about halfway to discharge fuel the valve is fully open. When the handle is pulled back all the way the valve moves into a closed position again and little or no fluid will discharge from the spout. The normal inclination for most people is to pull the handle back all the way to pour, as the can is heavy and pulling the handle back all the way improves the grip. These cans were provided with “\_” nozzles.

The alter versions of the gas can utilize a two-way valve. When the handle is pulled back halfway or more the valve is open and fluid can be discharged. When the handle is released the handle moves forward under spring tension and the valve is closed. These cans were provide with removable “1” nozzles.

Users of these gas cans need to be aware of the differing methods of operation of the gas cans. Use can quickly indicate which pouring method will be required. Although the size difference in nozzles may provide some clues as to the type of gas can, the nozzles may be interchanged between cans, and is not a foolproof indicator.

Please contact Dan Rodwell, Great Basin Fire Cache, at (208) 387-5124 if you have any questions or comments on the information above.

/s/ Paul E. Naman

## Appendix F

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cc:  
State Fire Management Officers-BLM  
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