

NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER

3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705



9216 NFES (FA240)

October 29, 2008



NATIONAL FIRE EQUIPMENT SYSTEM CACHE MEMORANDUM NO. 09-2

To: NFES: National Incident Support Caches

From: Paul Naman, NFES Representative - NIFC

Subject: NFES 0010 Reducer Labeling/Packaging Error from Manufacturer



Introduction:

A product deficiency notice was sent to the Great Basin Cache (GBK) identifying that some packages labeled as NFES 0010 reducers (1½" NH-F to 1" NPSH-M) contained NFES 0418 reducers (1½" NPSH-F to 1" NPSH-M). In addition, some of the NFES 0418 reducers are miss-marked as NFES 0010's. GBK inspected their entire inventory of factory packs labeled NFES 0010 (NSN 4210-00-294-2648) and validated the issue. All affected reducers were manufactured by Kochek and are found in factory packs of reducers obtained from GSA. The GBK inspection identified that lot numbers Kochek RDD 3331, 6064 and 7169 with the labeling/packaging problem. It is possible there are others lots affected.



Corrective Action:

All caches and GSA need to inspect their stock and separate the miss-marked/stamped reducers and set aside for replacement by the manufacturer. In addition, the NFES 0418 reducers that are correctly stamped should be separated out and repackaged correctly. The refurbishment operations for each cache should be made aware of the problem as a close inspection is required for this item.



Inspection Process:

The recommended method of inspection is to use a double male coupling (NFES 0856) to test thread compatibility (Figure 1).





Figure 1



Figure 2

- If the coupler threads into the reducer (Figure 2), check the marking to validate it is stamped as a NFES 0010. Those that have incorrect markings are defective.
- If the coupler does not thread into the reducer they are not an NFES 0010. If they are stamped as NFES 0418 they may be retained and moved to their proper location in inventory.
- If coupler does not thread into the reducer but are marked as NFES 0010, they are defective.

Replacement:

Although all defective reducers in the caches or in the field appear to be outside the period of warranty coverage Kochek has agreed to replace all defective inventories if returned for replacement by December 31, 2008. The National Interagency Support Cache (NISC) system will serve as collection/replacement centers for owners of defective reducers within their operating areas. Contact information for National Interagency Support Caches is available from the National Fire Equipment System catalog (NFES 0363), 2008 National Interagency MOB guide (pg. 257) and the Cache website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/cache/index.html>. The National Interagency Support Caches will coordinate all reducer replacement operations through Stan Legg at the Great Basin Area Incident Support Cache.

Please contact Stan Legg at (208) 387-5118 or Paul Naman, BLM-NIFC at (208) 387-5421 if you have any questions or comments regarding this information.

/s/ Paul E. Naman

cc:

State Fire Management Officers - BLM
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Technology Development Centers - San Dimas, Missoula
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