



Marine Safety Forum – Safety Flash 11-27

Classification News

July 7, 2011

No. 14/2011

Safety alert

Faulty safety equipment – 2kg and 5kg aluminium CO₂ fire extinguishers manufactured between 2006 and April 2011

Applicability

All shipbuilders, owners and operators

Information

TOTAL, a manufacturer of portable CO₂ fire extinguishers has contacted Lloyds Register to advise that faulty extinguishers have been identified in service. In a small number of cases the valve has failed and released unexpectedly. This has the potential to cause serious injury as the valves may be ejected at high speed. We have been further advised that, although these extinguishers were primarily used on land, a number have been supplied to the marine industry.

The affected extinguishers are 2kg and 5kg CO₂ aluminium cylinders and were manufactured between 2006 and April 2011. The screw thread on the valve cannot be seen.

The following brands are affected:

- TOTAL - Classic K2A, Classic K5
- COSMOS - COSMOS K5
- Hansa
- Hoenig
- IBS
- Neuruppin
- Optimal
- NWF
- Stoll-Luxemburg
- Waßmann

Due to the possibility of the valves failing and causing injury, the affected extinguishers must not be touched or moved. Owners and operators must identify any possibly affected extinguishers on board their vessels and contact the manufacturer for advice **immediately**.

TOTAL has provided a product notice, issued with this Classification News, to help clients identify affected equipment.



How to identify affected extinguishers!

Tyco has been made aware of an extremely small number of incidents where stress corrosion cracking appears to have caused the valve to fail. This has resulted in the valve being released unexpectedly. Tyco has learned that these valves, purchased by Tyco from a supplier, did not meet the supplier's specifications.

The risk of an incident is extremely small, but it may increase if the extinguishers are handled without our instructions. In rare occasions the

valves may be ejected under high speed and cause serious injuries.

The safety of our customers and employees is our utmost priority and as a precaution, we must ask you not to service these fire extinguishers. Do not use, service and/or move the affected extinguishers in any way and, following standard safety practices, do not lean directly over the head of the extinguisher.

1 Brands

Affected fire extinguishers will be branded **TOTAL**, COSMOS, Hansa, Hoenig, IBS, Neuruppin, Optimal, NWF, Stoll-Luxemburg or Waßmann.

2 Capacity and extinguishant: CO₂

CO₂ extinguishers with 2 kg or 5 kg capacity containers. Only CO₂ fire extinguishers are affected.

3 Type

The following markings are visible on the sticker of affected extinguishers (valid only for TOTAL and COSMOS extinguisher): TOTAL Classic **K 2 A**, TOTAL Classic **K 5**, COSMOS K 5. However products from other companies can be marked in other ways and use other names.

NOT AFFECTED ARE TOTAL TYPES: K 2 SE, K 2 i, K 2 g, K 2 c, K 5 SE, K 5 i, K 5 g, K 5 c

4 Valve

The valve looks the same on 2 kg and on 5 kg extinguishers.

The screw thread cannot be seen.

5 Aluminium

Only aluminium cylinders are affected.

Steel canisters are not affected. Perform an magnetic test to check what your cylinders are made from.



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How to identify affected extinguishers!




DO NOT MOVE OR TOUCH THE FIRE EXTINGUISHER!

Affected: 4 POINTS TO IDENTIFY ...

1

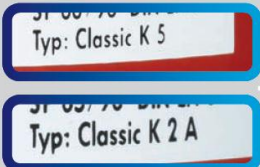


2




or

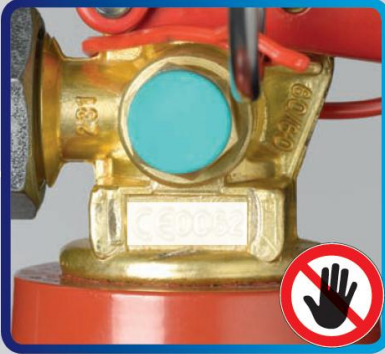
3




or



4



The screw thread can not be seen.



Not affected:



NOT AFFECTED ARE:

TOTAL TYPES:

- K 2 SE, K 5 SE
- K 2 i, K 5 i
- K 2 g, K 5 g
- K 2 c, K 5 c

NOT AFFECTED ARE:

- On the green plastic cap are stars.
- On top of the compression lever is the sign „CPF“.



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