

On November 2, 2017, Kidde issued a voluntary recall of two styles of disposable fire extinguishers that identified 142 models of Kidde fire extinguishers with plastic handles or push-button indicators manufactured between January 1, 1973 and September 22, 2017; these extinguishers can become clogged or require excessive force to discharge and can fail to activate during a fire emergency. In addition, the nozzle can detach with enough force to pose an impact hazard. The recalled extinguisher not only can be found on boats, but in homes, cars, airplanes, and other locations where a fire extinguisher may be used.

The ACN discusses procedures for several types of vessels (inspected, uninspected, recreational, etc.). As Auxiliary Vessel Examiners (VEs), we only need to comply with Vessel Safety Check (VSC) examination procedures for recreational vessels found in the ACN.

The following is a summary of those procedures. These procedures are effectively immediately.

1. Educate the owner and/or operator of a vessel with a recalled Kidde fire extinguisher onboard about the recall and replacement process for getting a new fire extinguisher. The recall and replacement procedures can be found at the following websites:

- a. Consumer Products Safety

Commission: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/kidde-recalls-fire-extinguishers-with-plastic-handles-due-to-failure-to-discharge-and>

- b. Marine Safety

Alert: <http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/CG-5PC/INV/Alerts/1217.pdf>.

2. Recalled fire extinguishers shall not prevent issuance of a VSC decal. Vessel Examiners shall issue a VSC decal to any vessel that receives a VSC in which a recalled fire extinguisher is on board and needed to meet carriage requirements when all other VSC requirements are met IAW Vessel Safety Check Manual, COMDTINST M16796.8A.

3. If a recalled extinguisher is found and fulfills a carriage requirement:
  - a. The VE shall annotate the VSC form by placing an asterisk and the word "RECALL" next to item 5, Fire Extinguishers, and
  - b. Provide a copy of the recall notice to the vessel owner. NOTE: The Consumer Product Safety Commission recall notice can be found at <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/kidde-recalls-fire-extinguishers-with-plastic-handles-due-to-failure-to-discharge-and>
  - c. Vessel Examiners shall retain a copy of any VSC form annotated pursuant to this message until further notice.
  - d. Auxiliary vessel examiners shall inform anyone requesting a VSC of the recall and the prudence in replacing recalled fire extinguishers.

If you have any questions, please contact Joe Reichal, DIR-V at [joseph.reichal@cgauxnet.us](mailto:joseph.reichal@cgauxnet.us) or Ed Lieblein, DVC-VE at [edwardward.lieblein@cgauxnet.us](mailto:edwardward.lieblein@cgauxnet.us)