



California State Fire Marshal Information Bulletin

Issued: August 25, 2008

Unapproved Fire Extinguishers Sold in California “1st Defense Fire Extinguisher”



It has come to our attention that Witmer Associates, Inc. is selling unapproved portable fire extinguishers in California. The fire extinguishers sold under the name Fire 1st Defense, marketed by Witmer Associates, Inc., does not meet the approved standards for sale in California.

California Health and Safety Code Section 13162 States:

“Requirements for sale and distribution; exceptions. No person shall market, distribute, or sell any portable fire extinguisher in this state unless it meets the following requirements:

(a) It complies with regulations and standards adopted by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Section 13160.

(b) It has been examined by and bears the label of Underwriters' Laboratories Inc. or another testing laboratory which is approved by the State Fire Marshal as qualified to test portable fire extinguishers. Any testing laboratory approved by the State Fire Marshal shall have facilities, personnel, and operating procedures equivalent to those of the Underwriters' Laboratories Inc.”

The marketing, distribution or sale of this Fire Extinguisher in California is a violation of California State Law.

You may contact Witmer Associates, Inc. directly at:

Company Address: 104 Independence Way, Coatesville, PA 19320

Contact Information: 1-800-852-6088

If you have questions regarding this Information Bulletin, please contact Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal James Parsegian at james.parsegian@fire.ca.gov or (916) 445-8415.

For information regarding the California State Fire Marshal Office please visit our website <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov>