



## Technical Memo

### I.F.E.D.A. MEMBERS INFORMATION/TECHNICAL UPDATE

**From: The National Office**

**Date: 17<sup>th</sup> August 2004.**

### Number 22

#### POWDER EXTINGUISHERS THAT TURN OUT TO BE FOAM

We have been advised of three instances of members finding that what appeared to be a powder extinguisher is in fact a foam extinguisher.

The first two cases involve Firex Model CT20 2RF which are labelled as 1kg ABC powder but the contents are foam which appear to have been manufactured in 1999 or 2000.

We have been unable to trace Firex (UK) Ltd and if any member knows of their address or contact details we will be pleased if you let us know.

We do not know if these are isolated incidents or whether there is a whole batch.

The instruction labels are not in English.

There are two points to be aware of:-

- (a) As the instruction labels are not in English we would recommend that when encountered during a service visit they are marked as 'Unfit For Service'.
- (b) If they are serviced the discharge nozzles should have been disconnected when it should have been noticed these are not of a suitable type for powder discharge and the extinguisher marked accordingly.

The third incident involves an extinguisher labelled as a 6kg powder which had been refurbished. When this was brought to our member he noticed that the discharge nozzle was of a type that should have been fitted to a foam extinguisher and on closer inspection it was discovered that the appliance did in fact contain foam.

We therefore recommend you stress with your service technicians the importance of following the requirements of BS5306-3:2003 in every aspect and not taking anything for granted.

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