

Memo-Servicing & Technical Info

I.F.E.D.A. MEMBERS SERVICING/TECHNICAL ADVICE/ UPDATE

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The following information should be read in conjunction with technical memo number 26 of December 2004. This memo refers to a Thomas Glover 55 gram CO2 cartridge, manufactured on 29/07/03 and refilled and tested (by Thomas Glover) in 2005.

Information received from IFEDA member at recent committee meeting.

The member's engineer reported that whilst servicing a 9 litre cartridge operated water unit the following had happened:

“.....the CO2 cartridge just managed to squeeze through the neck opening of the extinguisher due to the size of the expanding bubble on the cartridge.....as he went to replace the head a very large explosion (like gun fire) occurred and a piece of the plastic coating hit our engineer in the leg – he said he felt like he had been stabbed.....luckily it wasn't his eye....”

The above cartridge was returned to Thomas Glover for testing and their conclusion was that whilst they were able to establish that the cartridge had leaked from where the adapter fits to the body (neck) thus inflating the PVC coating they were not able to establish why this had happened.

The above is a good example of why it is good practice to wear safety glasses at all times.

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