



THE HARRIS PRODUCTS GROUP

A LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY

2345 Murphy Boulevard • Gainesville, GA 30504 • U.S.A Tel: +1 (770) 536-8801 • Fax: +1 (770) 535-0544

January 20, 2011

Jeff Cortese
Welding Hardgoods Product Manager
Airgas Inc.
259 North Radnor-Chester Road Suite 100
Radnor, PA 19087

Subject: Recall of Torch-Type Swivel Flashback Arrestors

Dear Valued Customer:

The highest priority of The Harris Products Group is the **safety of our products and our customers who use them**. For this reason, Harris has implemented a recall on certain torch-type swivel flashback arrestors which were shipped from Harris between May 1, 2010 and January 14, 2011. Our records indicate that you have purchased these products during the affected time period. The following part numbers are included in the recall:

- P/N 4301609 – Model 88-5SFBTL – Fuel Gas Sold in 5 Pack
- P/N 4301610 – Model 88-5SFBTR – Oxygen Sold in 5 Pack
- P/N 4301650 – Model 88-5FBTL – Oxygen & Fuel Gas Sold in Pair Pack
- P/N 4301656 – Model 88-5FBTR - Oxygen Sold Individually
- P/N 4301657 – Model 88-5FBTL – Fuel Gas Sold Individually
- P/N 4401144 – Model 64425-050 Cutter Pac (flashback arrestors only)
- P/N 4403248 – Model 43425-510 Outfit (flashback arrestors only)

Please find attached a safety recall notice with further details and a list of your recent orders which include the above flash arrestors. As there was a change in the design of these flashback arrestors, only the new design is being recalled and, specifically, only those arrestors from the list of orders attached. All other flashback arrestors, including those manufactured prior to April 2010, are not included in this recall. **Please see the photos in the attached recall notice** designed to make it easier to identify the recall-eligible parts. We ask that you inspect your inventory and determine if you have any of the recalled arrestors.

Harris will provide, **free of charge**, replacement arrestors within the next week. We have corrected the problem and all current models with 3/4" or 19mm body diameter have been tested and certified. We are ready to replace your inventory as quickly as possible. This recall is being conducted to the end user level, therefore, if you have sold any recalled arrestors to customers since approximately May, 2010, we ask that you notify them of this safety recall and ask that they return the product to you in exchange for free replacements. While The Harris Products Group has not had any complaints and is not aware of any injuries at this time, we recommend you immediately cease using these products and return them to us.



We would like to take this opportunity to remind you to emphasize to customers the importance of leak testing any connection after any replacements are installed and before use, as per manufacturer's instructions and industry practice. We appreciate your continued commitment to safety which keeps users safe from personal injury and fire hazards. A Harris representative will be in contact with you shortly to discuss any concerns you have regarding this recall and to discuss free safety training for your customers.

We apologize for any inconvenience this recall causes you and will do our best to ensure that we expeditiously replace the products in question. Harris takes the quality of our products seriously and we have made immediate improvements in our processes to eliminate this type of problem from reoccurring. Should you have further questions regarding the product or this recall, please contact your Harris sales representative, Doug Perry or Randy Weise of Technical Services at 1.800.241.0804.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David J. Nangle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "N" at the end.

David J. Nangle
President & CEO



VOLUNTARY SAFETY RECALL

PRODUCT INCLUDED IN RECALL:

This recall involves only torch style flashback arrestors with a body diameter of .75" or 3/4" or 19mm. Models with a body diameter of .83 or 27/32" or 21mm are NOT included in this recall.

- P/N 4301609 – Model 88-5SFBTL – Fuel Gas Sold in 5 Pack
- P/N 4301610 – Model 88-5SFBTR – Oxygen Sold in 5 Pack
- P/N 4301650 – Model 88-5FBTL – Oxygen & Fuel Gas Sold in Pair Pack
- P/N 4301656 – Model 88-5FBTR - Oxygen Sold Individually
- P/N 4301657 – Model 88-5FBTL – Fuel Gas Sold Individually
- P/N 4401144 – Model 64425-050 Cutter Pac (flashback arrestors only)
- P/N 4403248 – Model 43425-510 Outfit (flashback arrestors only)

Our sales records indicate that you have received some of the affected product. Your purchase order numbers with that contained affected product are attached.

HOW TO IDENTIFY PRODUCT AFFECTED BY RECALL:

Product can be identified by:

1. Torch Mount only
2. Physical Dimensions – .75" or 3/4" or 19mm

Label Differences – Label Width of 3/8"

INITIAL FINDINGS:

An internal quality assurance process discovered that these products may have a leak in the body of the flashback arrestor. The potential consequences of leaks could include a personal injury and fire hazard. While The Harris Products Group has not had any complaints and is not aware of any injuries at this time, we recommend you immediately cease using these products and return them to us.



HOW TO RETURN DEFECTIVE PRODUCT:

We will accept returns on any Torch-type Swivel Flashback Arrestors as identified in the product comparison page of this recall, supplied from May 1, 2010 to January 14, 2011. We will be shipping to you replacement torch-type swivel flashback arrestors, free of charge, in the same quantities as outlined in the attached list of purchase orders.

1. Product currently in distributor's inventory not yet sold

Exchange distributor inventory with replacement flashback arrestor. Return new, unopened product to:

The Harris Products Group
Attn: Product Recall
2345 Murphy Blvd.
Gainesville, GA 30504

Return via UPS Ground
Bill Recipient (The Harris Products Group, UPS Account Number 323514)
In Reference Area please include "FBA Recall"

Product returned to Harris should be accompanied by a completed Product Recall Form (see attached). We have issued you a Return Material Authorization (RMA) for the part number(s) and quantities purchased by you. This RMA number must appear on all product that is returned to Harris.

2. Product already sold and delivered to end user:

A sample letter is attached for you to utilize to contact customers who have purchased the affected flashback arrestor model(s) from you. Exchange one for one with replacement product. Return used product to:

The Harris Products Group
Attn: Product Recall
2345 Murphy Blvd.
Gainesville, GA 30504

Return via UPS Ground
Bill Recipient (The Harris Products Group, UPS Account Number 323514)
In Reference Area please include "FBA Recall"

Product returned to Harris should be accompanied by a completed Product Recall Form (see attached). We have issued you a Return Material Authorization (RMA) for the part number(s) and quantities purchased by you. This RMA number must appear on all product that is returned to Harris.



IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE:

Immediately contact all customers who have purchased product from you during the recall period and instruct them to cease use of the product. A sample letter is attached to notify your customer of the recall. You will have 60 days to execute the exchange. All recalled product, as well as any unused replacement product, must be returned to Harris, at our expense, no later than March 18, 2011.

DISTRIBUTOR AND CONSUMER CONTACT:

Mr. Doug Perry or Mr. Randy Weise

Technical Services

The Harris Products Group

2345 Murphy Blvd.

Gainesville, GA 30504

Telephone: 1.800.241.0804 (Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. EST)

Email: doug_perry@lincolnelectric.com or randy_weisse@lincolnelectric.com



RMA #



**THE HARRIS PRODUCTS GROUP
FLASHBACK ARRESTORS
PRODUCT RECALL FORM**

Distributor Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Contact Email: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Address: _____

Part Number	Description	Quantity Returned
4301609	Model 88-5FBTL	
4301610	Model 88-5FBTR	
4301650	Model 88-5FBTL R&L	
4301656	Model 88-5FBTR	
4301657	Model 88-5FBTL	
4401144	Model 64425-050 Cutter Pac (flashback arrestors only)	
4403248	Model 43425-510 Outfit (flashback arrestors only)	

Return completed form and recalled product to:

The Harris Products Group
Attn: Product Recall
2345 Murphy Blvd.
Gainesville, GA 30504

Return via UPS Ground
Bill Recipient (The Harris Products Group, UPS Account Number 323514)
In Reference Area please include "FBA Recall"



SAMPLE DISTRIBUTOR LETTER

Name
Address
City, State, ZIP

RE: **PRODUCT RECALL NOTICE**

Dear Customer:

Our supplier, The Harris Products Group, is initiating a voluntary recall on certain swivel torch-type flashback arrestors sold from May 1, 2010 through January 14, 2010. Our records indicate that we may have sold this product to you on the following invoices numbers:

(Insert Invoice Date, Invoice Number, Part Number(s), Description and Quantity Sold)

The picture below will guide you in identifying the product to be recalled. **If you are in possession of the recalled product, please cease to use this product immediately and return it to us for a free replacement.**

We apologize for any inconvenience this recall causes you. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of leak testing any connection after replacements are installed and before use, as per manufacturer's instructions and industry practice. We appreciate your continued commitment to safety which keeps users safe from personal injury and fire hazards. Harris representatives are available to you to answer any questions you have and to provide free safety training for your employees.

Sincerely,