



Product Alert

March 2, 2016

Type of Notification: Unauthorized Product Modification

FM Approvals has been made aware of rigid type grooved pipe couplings found in Australia bearing the FM Approvals marking produced by Weifang Changsheng Pipe Co., Ltd. The couplings do not bear the model designation of the FM Approved coupling and were produced with a coating not FM Approved for the product in question.

Product Identity: "WPT" on casting, no model designation present and the casting is galvanized (See Figs. 1 – 4)

Description: Nominal pipe size 6"/165.1mm rigid grooved coupling

Manufacturer: Weifang Changsheng Pipe Co., Ltd

FM Approval status: Not Approved as described within

Quantity: 200

Hazard Involved: The couplings in question do not bear any model designation on the product and are not FM Approved but do bear the FM Approvals casting certification mark. This may lead to the product being used in improper applications. The couplings were also identified to be galvanized, rather than coated with the FM Approved red paint. Untested coatings on grooved couplings have different frictional properties with unknown performance characteristics when subjected to a bending moment. Inadequate bending moment performance can lead to leakage or joint failure.

If you suspect you are in possession of a Weifang Changsheng coupling that is either galvanized or without a model designation and bearing the FM Approvals certification marking, please bring that to the attention of:

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Figure 1 below shows one of the couplings found with a galvanized coating and no model designation marking. The housing castings, hardware and gasket appeared to be the same used in the model XGQT1R rigid coupling.



Figure 1. Coupling discovered in Australia with the non-FM Approved galvanized coating and no model designation

Figure 2 below shows a closer view of the markings cast into the coupling housing. The UL Listed marking is visible to the left, the “WPT” in the middle is the designation of manufacturer, Weifang Changsheng Pipe Co., Ltd., and the nominal pipe size is visible below that “6” / 168.1MM.” The FM Approvals marking is visible to the top right. The product should not be considered FM Approved.



Figure 2. Markings on the housing of the coupling shown in Figure 1

Figure 3 below shows an example of a coupling with the Approved red paint coating as well as the complete set of markings required.



Figure 3. Example of a coupling with the correct markings and coating

Figure 4 below shows an enlarged view of the casting mark that designates the model of the coupling “XGQT1R.” The product should not be considered FM Approved if it does not contain a model designation.



Figure 4. Model designation marking