



Product Alert - Counterfeit Globe Sprinklers

October 8, 2019

Type of Notification: Counterfeit

FM Approvals has been made aware of counterfeit automatic fire sprinklers found in the city of Yiwu in the Zhejiang province of China bearing an FM Approvals mark. FM Approvals has neither tested nor certified these products.

Product Identity: The sprinklers bear the marking “GLOBE” on the wrench boss and the sprinkler identification number (SIN) “GL5601,” however, the identity of the manufacturer is unknown. Differences between the authentic sprinkler and the counterfeit sprinkler are shown in Figures 1- 3 (attached).

Description: ½” NPT frangible bulb type automatic pendent style sprinklers

FM Approval status: **Not FM Approved**

Hazard involved: These automatic sprinklers cannot be relied upon to react to or control a fire. Failure by any of the following mechanisms is possible: failure of the thermal element, orifice leakage, premature or delayed operation, bulb strutting (incomplete fracture), ejection of the deflector, inadequate or excessive discharge rate, corrosive attack, failure to operate, failure to produce an adequate discharge pattern, etc.

The sprinklers were not produced by Globe Fire Sprinkler Corporation.

If you suspect you are in possession of sprinklers bearing the FM Approvals certification marking, please bring that to the attention of:

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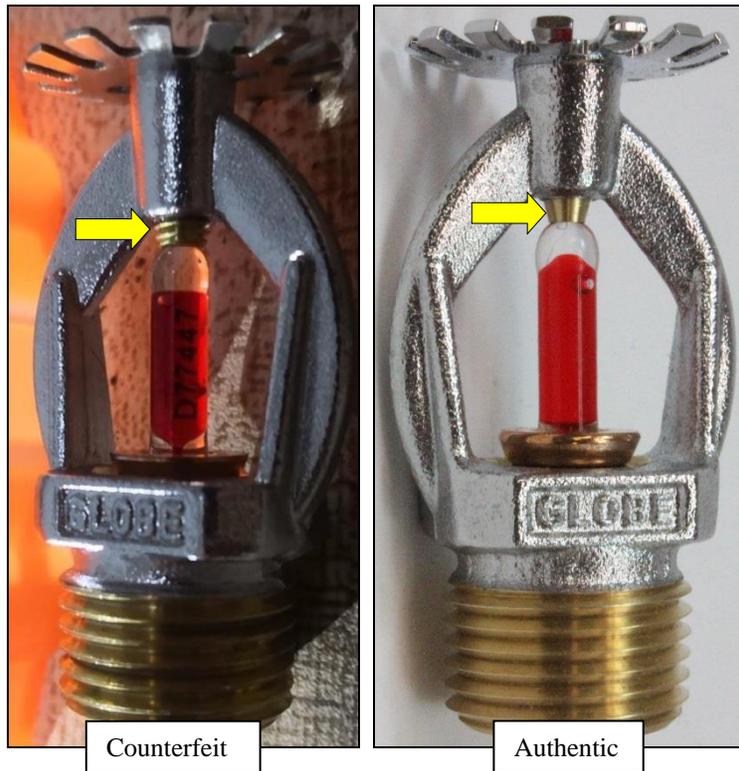


Figure 1. A counterfeit pendent style sprinkler found bearing a counterfeit FM Approvals mark on the left and an authentic Globe GL5651 pendent sprinkler on the right. The shapes of the frame and deflector are very similar. The only distinguishing part is the load screw tip, indicated in each photograph by the yellow arrows. The load screw on the authentic Globe sprinklers has a tapered and smooth exterior profile, while the load screw in the counterfeit sprinkler has external threading along its exposed portion.

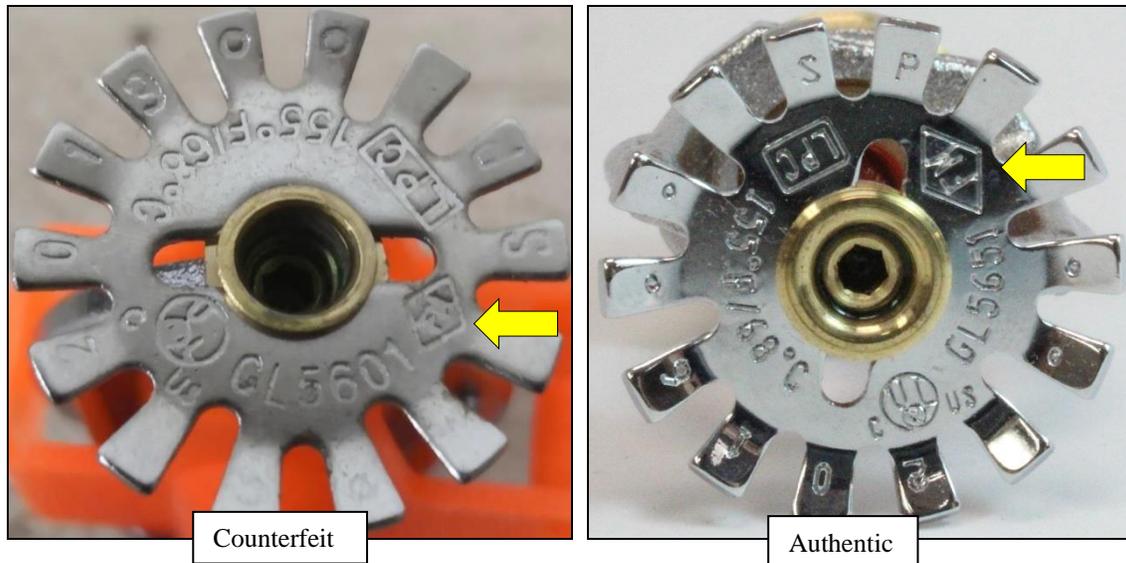


Figure 2. The pendent style deflector bearing the counterfeit FM Approvals mark (left) and an authentic Globe GL5651 (right). The markings on the counterfeit sprinkler deflector, as well as the shape of the deflector itself, are very similar to those found on the authentic Globe sprinkler. The yellow arrows highlight the FM Approvals markings on each deflector.

The sprinkler identification number (SIN) marked on the counterfeit sprinkler is “GL5601.” Authentic Globe GL5601 sprinklers use 3 mm diameter glass bulbs, while this counterfeit sprinkler uses a 5 mm glass bulb. An authentic Globe GL5601 sprinkler would be assembled with a 3 mm diameter glass bulb marked “JOB F3” or “N3.” If any 5 mm diameter glass bulb is found assembled in a sprinkler marked “GL5601,” it is likely a counterfeit sprinkler.



Figure 3. The different frangible glass bulbs used in the counterfeit Globe sprinklers (left) and authentic Globe sprinklers (right). The bulb is also a counterfeit product and not produced by Job GmbH.