



Product Alert

June 27, 2016

Type of Notification: Safety / Performance Related Concern

FM Approvals has been made aware of a safety issue that under certain conditions may render some American Valve and Hydrant Mfg. Co. Model B-62B-5, B-84B-5 and Mark 73-5 dry barrel fire hydrants inoperable, potentially limiting the water supply to a sprinkler system. Reference the attached Safety and Remediation Notice issued by American Flow Control. American Valve and Hydrant Mfg. Co. manufactures products marketed and sold by AMERICAN Flow Control division of AMERICAN. American-Darling is a tradename of American Valve and Hydrant Mfg. Co.

Company (As Listed in the Approval Guide): American Valve and Hydrant Mfg. Co.

Address: 3525 Hollywood Avenue, Beaumont, TX 77701

Contact Information: 1-800-326-7082 or e-mail at afcquestions@american-usa.com

Product Identity: Dry Barrel Fire Hydrants

Model: Model B-62B-5 - size 5-1/4 inch NPS

Model B-84B-5 – sizes 5-1/4 and 6 inch NPS

Model Mark 73-5 – size 4-1/2 inch NPS

Date Codes Affected: Hydrants manufactured between 2006 and 2011

FM Approval Status: All Model B-62-5, B-84B-5 and Mark 73-5 hydrants manufactured between 2006 and 2011 are FM Approved.

Hazard Involved: Certain hose nozzles within the hydrants (See Figure 1) listed above may develop cracks. When the hydrant is pressurized this may cause the nozzles to separate from the hydrant upper barrel. The separation of a nozzle under pressure causes a loss of water pressure and renders the hydrant inoperable. Further, if nozzle separation occurs under pressure, parts, hoses or high pressure water may be expelled from the hydrant, posing a serious safety risk. As a result of this potential failure mechanism, the water supply to a sprinkler system may be limited therefore it is recommended that this issue be addressed immediately.

Further technical information regarding the American Valve and Hydrant Mfg. Co. Models B-62B-5, B-84B-5 and the Mark 73-5 dry barrel fire hydrants can be found at the following web address:
www.american-usa.com

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Fig. 1 - Hose nozzle (threaded outlet).



AMERICAN

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THE RIGHT WAY

May 16, 2016

IMPORTANT SAFETY AND REMEDIATION NOTICE

AMERICAN FLOW CONTROL (AMERICAN) has learned of a safety issue that affects some American-Darling fire hydrants manufactured from 2006 through 2011. Certain hose nozzles in these hydrants may develop cracks that, when the hydrant is pressurized, may cause the nozzle to separate from the hydrant upper barrel. AMERICAN has determined that American-Darling fire hydrants manufactured from 2006 through 2011 must be inspected to identify and replace the nozzles that are subject to cracking.

Safety Hazard. The separation of a nozzle under pressure causes a loss of water pressure and renders the hydrant inoperable. Further, if nozzle separation under pressure occurs, parts, hoses or high pressure water may be projected from the hydrant, posing a **serious safety risk**.

Identification of Affected Hydrants and Nozzles. Affected hydrants can be identified by the year of manufacture, which appears in raised numbers on the hydrant upper barrel. The hose nozzles of affected hydrants bear a foundry mark of either the letter "L" or "S" on the interior surface of the nozzle, nearest the nozzle threads. Hose nozzles with the foundry mark "S" are subject to this notice and **must be replaced**. Pumper nozzles and hose nozzles with the foundry mark "L", or L and a numerical reference, such as "L5", are **not** subject to this notice and do not need to be replaced. Also excluded from this notice are American-Darling fire hydrants produced in 2006 with Amlok nozzles.

If you believe that you may have an American-Darling fire hydrant subject to this notice, please contact AMERICAN Customer Service at 800-326-7082, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. CT, or email AMERICAN at afcquestions@american-usa.com. Customer Service will direct you to an instructional video and instructions for identifying and replacing the nozzles; and provide information regarding reimbursable expenses, and accompanying forms and directions for submitting claims for reimbursement to AMERICAN. If you require the services of a contractor to inspect hydrants in your jurisdiction and replace the affected nozzles, AMERICAN has retained contractors who can perform these services. Customer Service can explain further and provide an order form requesting the information necessary to obtain contractor hydrant remediation services. You may also contact your AMERICAN sales representative for further information, or visit AMERICAN's website at www.american-usa.com.

AMERICAN strongly urges you to complete the inspection and replacement program as soon as possible.

AMERICAN Flow Control is a division of AMERICAN Cast Iron Pipe Company, whose goal for more than 100 years has been to provide the public with safe, dependable, high-quality products. In order to maintain the high standards for which our company is known, we are replacing all the hose nozzles in the fire hydrants described in this notice. At AMERICAN, we strive to do things *"The Right Way."* We proudly stand behind our products and will continue to deliver reliable products and excellent customer service, which are fundamental to our company's values. We appreciate your business.

Best Regards,

John Hagelskamp
Division Sales Manager