



Product Alert

September 20, 2012

Type of Notification: Performance Related Concern

FM Approvals has been made aware of a potential issue with Chemetron Fire System's Carbon Dioxide System Discharge Hose (P/N 50260263). The brass ferrule that attaches the male coupling to the hose may exhibit cracking that can cause the hose to fail under pressure.

Company Identity: Chemetron Fire Systems

Address: c/o Kidde-Fenwal, Inc.
400 Main Street
Ashland, MA 01721

Contact information: Mr. Richard Karadzian, Mechanical Engineering Manager

Product Identity: Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing System

Description: ½" Carbon Dioxide System Discharge Hose

Make/Model: P/N 50260263

Nameplate data: N/A

FM Approval status: FM Approved

Hazard Involved:

If the ½" Carbon Dioxide system discharge hose exhibits a crack along the length of the brass ferrule on either end, it may disconnect on discharge causing the fire suppression system to not operate properly for suppression. As set out in Chemtron's Bulletin, this may also pose a life safety risk if Carbon Dioxide discharges into an occupied space.

Refer to the attached documents for further details regarding direction for inspection, identification and replacement.

Enclosures: Chemetron Bulletin 11-61C
Chemetron Bulletin 12-25C

Bulletin

#11-61C

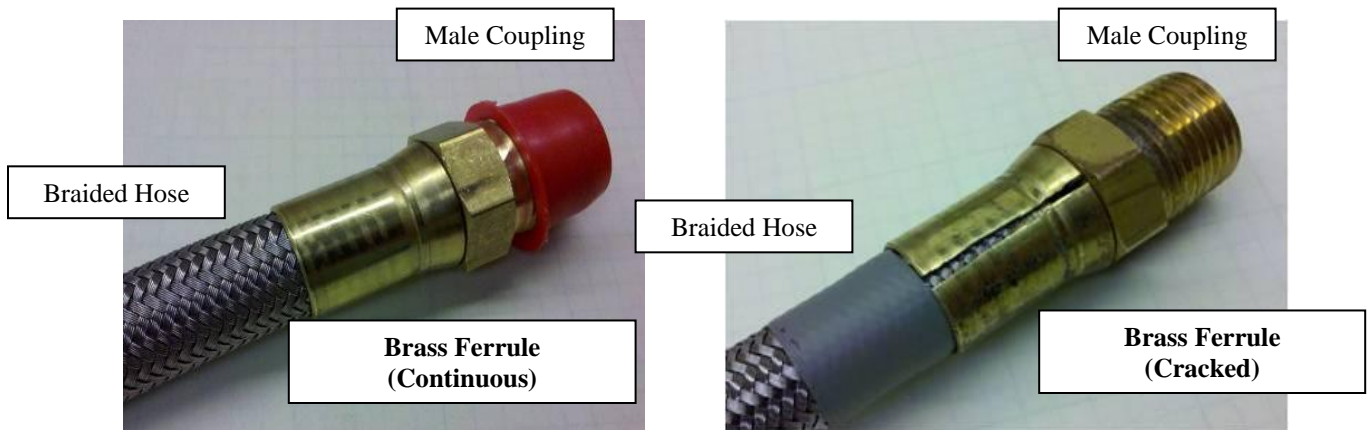
Date: December 1, 2011
To: Chemetron Fire Systems Distributors
From: Joseph Ciol, Product Manager
Subject: **Safety Bulletin 50260263** ½ inch CO2 Discharge Hose

Important Safety Notice - Please Read And Act Immediately

We are issuing this safety bulletin to make you aware of a potential issue with the Chemetron 1/2" (nominal) CO2 discharge hose, part number 50260263.

1/2" CO2 discharge hoses shipped between June 2010 and March 2011 may exhibit a crack along the brass ferrule that attaches the male coupling to the hose. **These hoses must be visually inspected at the earliest opportunity.**

To determine if the hose you have purchased exhibits a crack, visually inspect the ferrule to determine whether any longitudinal cracks are present. The pictures below are for your reference. **If the 1/2" CO2 discharge hose exhibits a crack of ANY length along the length of the brass ferrule on either end, it may disconnect on discharge causing the fire suppression system to not operate properly for suppression. It may also pose a life safety risk if CO2 discharges in an occupied space.**



Example of correct ferrule condition

The brass ferrule is continuous (unbroken) around the entire circumference.

Example of incorrect ferrule condition (worst case complete longitudinal crack)

A crack or split of ANY length along the ferrule body on either end of the hose is cause for replacement.

Action On Your Part

1. Check your inventory and make the necessary arrangements to inspect hoses installed at your customer sites. A hose that exhibits a crack or split **of ANY length** along the ferrule body **on either end** of the discharge hose must be replaced immediately. An inspection mirror may be required to view the entire surface of the ferrule.

Note: Hoses shipped between June 2010 and March 2011 have two distinct configurations. **Only Configuration A is subject to the instructions outlined in this communication.** Configuration B need not be replaced and may remain in service, subject to the standard inspection and test procedures per NFPA and/or other relevant codes and standards.

REPLACE

NO ACTION
REQUIRED



Configuration A

No marking on the coupling hex

Configuration B

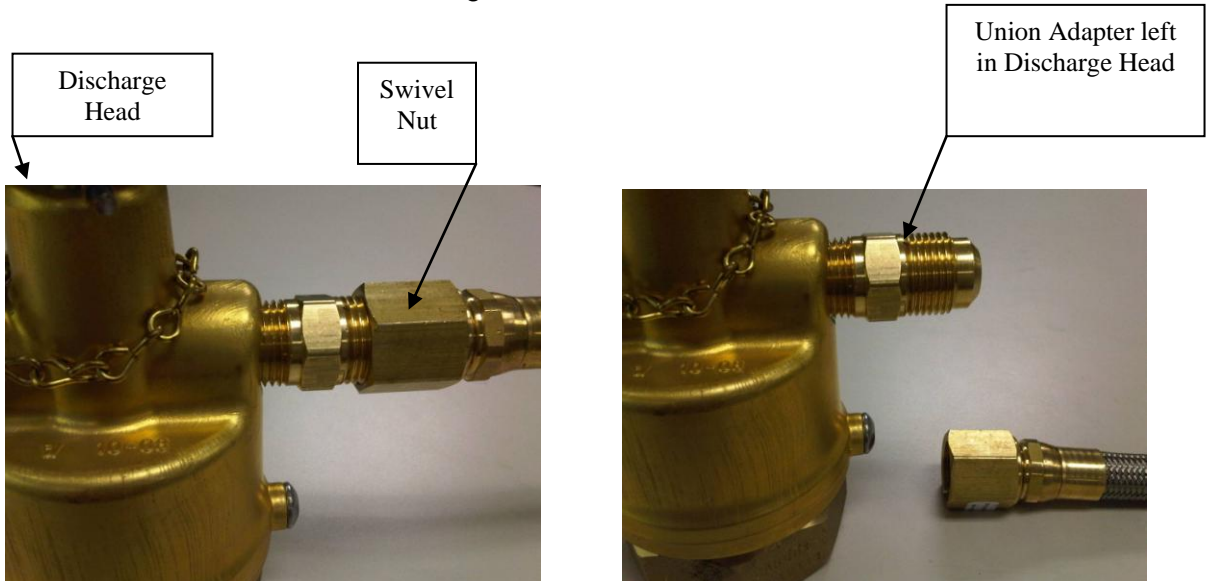
Supplier Identifier marking on the coupling hex

2. Hoses shipped between June 2010 and March 2011, **that do not exhibit a crack along the ferrule but have no marking on the coupling hex (See Configuration A above), must be replaced at the next service interval.** Hoses removed from service must be rendered inoperative and disposed of to avoid the possibility of reuse. This can be achieved by cutting the hose in half or the removal of one of the fittings. Once again, only hoses shipped between June 2010 and March 2011 meeting Configuration A (no marking on the coupling hex) need to be replaced per this bulletin. Hoses meeting Configuration B are not subject to this bulletin.
3. Please contact your customer service representative at Chemetron (800-878-5631) to arrange for the replacement hoses via the RMA process. Replacement hoses will be provided in advance at no charge, upon request. We request that any cracked hoses found be returned to Chemetron for analysis. Any uncracked hoses which are replaced in accordance with this service bulletin should be rendered inoperative per the instructions above. **Please notify us within 6 months of the quantity of hoses replaced in the field by completing the attached 61C High Pressure CO2 Discharge Hose Safety Upgrade Credit Claim Form.** Upon proper completion of this form Chemetron will provide a labor credit of \$200 per site visit. Providing Chemetron with this completed form is also necessary to prevent charging you back for the advanced replacement hoses.

4. Chemetron has identified the stock numbers and purchase orders for each hose purchased during this time frame and this list is included at the end of this service bulletin. Your Chemetron Customer Service Representative will be able to assist you with your purchase information, should you have additional questions. Please note that this discharge hose part number is used as a component in the assemblies listed below:

20480759
20480760
20480834
20480836
20480849
62-20480483-000
62-20480486-000
62-20480641-000
63-20480484-000
63-50260263-000

5. To accomplish the hose replacement follow standard procedure for disarming the system including removal of all the discharge heads in the system to avoid accidental discharge. Disassemble the **Swivel Nut** side of the hose first, leaving the **Union Adaptor** in the Discharge Head. Then remove the male end from the system piping. The new hose should then be assembled in the reverse order with the male fitting end first, then the swivel nut end into the union adaptor. Use a small amount of a good grade of pipe thread dope or Teflon tape on the threads when making these connections. Before connecting discharge heads to cylinders, make certain that the plungers of ALL discharge heads are in the *non-actuated* position (i.e., check the plunger to see that it is retracted). When the piston is in the non-actuated (retracted) position, the end of the plunger should be approximately 3/4" inside the bottom of the union nut. Reassemble the discharge heads.



Bulletin**#12-25C**

Date: July 13, 2012
To: All Chemetron® Fire Systems Distributors
From: Joe Ciol, Product Manager
Subject : Reminder - Safety Bulletin 50260263 ½ inch CO2 Discharge Hose

Important Safety Notice - Please Read And Act Immediately

In December 2011, you received the attached safety notice, #11-61C. This notice advised you of a potential safety issue with the ½ inch high pressure discharge hose 50260263. If you have already complied with this notice and have completed all inspections, made all necessary replacements and have submitted your credit claim form, you may disregard this reminder.

If you have not yet complied with this notice, please make every effort to identify, inspect and replace the hoses **immediately**. All of the ½ inch discharge hoses shipped between June 2010 and March 2011 without marking on the coupling head (see configuration A in the safety bulletin #11-61C) must be replaced. Advance replacement hoses will be provided at no charge. Also a \$200.00 credit will be provided to you per site visit upon proper completion of a credit request form. Refer to the bulletin for details.

Thank you for your attention to this important safety matter.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Technical Support at (708) 748-1503 or Joe Ciol, Product Manager at 508-231-2749.