

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555-0001

September 30, 1999

**NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 99-28: RECALL OF STAR BRAND FIRE PROTECTION
SPRINKLER HEADS**

Addressees

All holders of licenses for nuclear power, research and test reactors, and fuel cycle facilities.

Purpose

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this information notice to alert addressees to a recall of the Star brand, dry-type, fire protection sprinkler heads manufactured by the Mealane Corporation of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It is expected that recipients will review the information for applicability to their facilities and consider actions, as appropriate, to avoid problems. However, suggestions contained in this information notice are not NRC requirements; therefore, no specific actions or written response is required.

Description of Circumstances

On August 4, 1999, the Consumers Product Safety Commission (CPSC) in cooperation with the Mealane Corporation announced a voluntary recall of approximately 1 million Star brand, dry-type, fire protection sprinkler heads, models D-1, RD-1, RE-1, E-1, and ME-1, manufactured between 1961 and 1976. The sprinkler heads may be identified by the word "Star" on one side and the model number on the other side of the lower portion of the sprinkler head's frame. The date of manufacture (two-digit year) can be found on the deflector.

The CPSC reports that 67 percent of the heads recently tested at independent laboratories failed to activate as they should. The CPSC has also stated that it has received one report alleging a Star sprinkler head did not activate during an actual fire.

The Mealane Corporation will replace the sprinkler heads free and will reimburse purchasers for the labor costs of removing and replacing the affected sprinklers. Mealane has established a Star Sprinkler recall hotline at (800) 866-7807, and a Web site at www.star-recall.com to inform about the recall.

PDR I + E NOTICE 99-028 990930

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updated on 10/12/99

Related Generic Communication

- IN 97-72, "Potential for Failure of the Omega Series Sprinkler Heads," September 22, 1997

This information notice requires no specific action or written response. If you have any questions about the information in this notice, please contact one of the technical contacts listed below or the appropriate Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) or Office of Nuclear Material and Safeguards (NMSS) project manager.

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Attachments:

1. List of Recently Issued NRR Information Notices
2. List of Recently Issued NMSS Information Notices

**LIST OF RECENTLY ISSUED
 NMSS INFORMATION NOTICES**

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date of Issuance	Issued to
99-27	Malfunction of Source Retraction Mechanism in Cobalt-60 Teletherapy Treatment Units	9/2/99	All medical licensees authorized to conduct teletherapy treatments
99-26	Safety and Economic Consequences of Misleading Marketing Information	8/24/99	All Distributors and/or Manufacturers of Generally Licensed Products
99-24	Broad-Scope Licensees' Responsibilities for Reviewing and Approving Unregistered Sealed Sources and Devices	7/12/99	All medical licensees' of broad-scope and master materials licenseés
99-23	Safety Concerns Related To Repeated Control Unit Failures of the Nucletron Classic Model High-Dose-Rate Remote Afterloading Brachytherapy Devices	7/6/99	All U.S. NRC medical licensees authorized to use brachytherapy sources in Nucletron Classic Model high-dose-rate (HDR) remote afterloaders
99-22	10 CFR 34.43(a)(1): Effective Date for Radiographer Certification and Plans for Enforcement Discretion	6/25/99	Industrial Radiography Licensees
99-20	Contingency Planning for the Year 2000 Computer Problem	6/25/99	All material and fuel cycle licensees and certificate holders
99-18	Update on NRC's Year 2000 Activities for Materials Licensees and Fuel Cycle Licensees and Certificate Holders	6/14/99	All material and fuel cycle licensees and certificate holders
99-16	Federal Bureau of Investigation's Nuclear Site Security Program	5/28/99	All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission fuel cycle, power reactor, and non-power reactor licensees
99-11	Incident Involving the Use of Radioactive Iodine-131	4/16/99	All medical use licensees
99-09	Problems Encountered When Manually Editing treatment Data on the Nucletron Microselectron-HDR (New) Model 105-999	3/24/99	All medical licensees authorized to conduct high-dose-rate (HDR) remote after loading brachytherapy treatments

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99-21	Recent Plant Events Caused By Human Performance Errors	6/25/99	All holders of licenses for nuclear power, test, and research reactors
99-20	Contingency Planning for the Year 200 Computer Problem	6/25/99	All material and fuel cycle licensees and certificate holders

OL = Operating License
CP = Construction Permit

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 and Safeguards
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- Attachments:
1. List of Recently Issued NRR Information Notices
 2. List of Recently Issued NMSS Information Notices

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*See previous concurrence

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