

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

January 4, 1991

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 91-01: SUPPLIER OF MISREPRESENTED RESISTORS

Addressees:

All holders of operating licenses or construction permits for nuclear power reactors.

Purpose:

This information notice is intended to notify addressees of the potential for improperly marked and/or misrepresented resistors from Impala Electronics, an electrical parts distributor located in Tampa, Florida. It is expected that recipients of this notice will review the information for applicability to their facilities and consider actions, as appropriate, to avoid similar problems. However, suggestions contained in this information notice do not constitute NRC requirements; therefore, no specific action or written response is required.

Discussion:

On September 25, 1990, and on November 15, 1990, the Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) office issued Alert data sheets that discussed concerns regarding the sale by an electrical parts distributor, Impala Electronics, of improperly remarked Qualified Product List (QPL) resistors and non-QPL resistors that are misrepresented as QPL resistors. All remarked resistors obtained from or through Impala were identified in the Alert to be suspect. These resistors may be remarked with incorrect information that may include failure rate (FR) levels, tolerances, date codes, temperature coefficient of resistance (TCR), etc.

In the Alert, the Defense Criminal Investigative Service recommended the following actions for the disposition of all remarked products obtained from or through this distributor:

- a. All remarked products in stock should be returned to the original manufacturer for replacement or credit, or
- b. All products in stock should be screened to verify that the TCR and tolerance are correct as marked, or that the parts are usable as is. Because there are no known effective screens to verify the correctness of marked date code or FR level, all parts used, or to be used in applications in which proper date code or FR level are critical should be removed and returned to the manufacturer.

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TDAR-11C

The Defense Criminal Investigative Service has informed the NRC that Impala Electronics, known for its responsiveness to requests for quick delivery of resistors, was suspended from government contracting in December 1989, closed its doors for business as of January 1990, and was indicted in August 1990.

This information notice requires no specific action or written response. If you have any questions about the information in this notice, please contact the technical contact listed below or the appropriate NRR project manager.

Charles E. Rossi
Charles E. Rossi, Director
Division of Operational Events Assessment
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Technical Contact: Walter P. Haass, NRR
(301) 492-3219

Attachment: List of Recently Issued NRC Information Notices

LIST OF RECENTLY ISSUED
 NRC INFORMATION NOTICES

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date of Issuance	Issued to
90-82	Requirements for Use of Nuclear Regulatory Commission-(NRC-)Approved Transport Packages for Shipment of Type A Quantities of Radioactive Materials.	12/31/90	All registered users of NRC-approved packages.
90-81	Fitness for Duty	12/24/90	All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) materials and non-power reactor licensees.
90-80	Sand Intrusion Resulting in Two Diesel Generators Becoming Inoperable	12/21/90	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.
90-79	Failures of Main Steam Isolation Check Valves Resulting in Disc Separation	12/20/90	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.
90-78	Previously Unidentified Release Path from Boiling Water Reactor Control Rod Hydraulic Units	12/18/90	All holders of OLs or CPs for boiling water reactors (BWRs).
90-77	Inadvertent Removal of Fuel Assemblies from the Reactor Core	12/12/90	All holders of OLs or CPs for pressurized-water reactors (PWRs).
88-23, Supp. 3	Potential for Gas Binding of High-Pressure Safety Injection Pumps During A Loss-Of-Coolant Accident	12/10/90	All holders of OLs or CPs for pressurized-water reactors (PWRs).
90-76	Failure Of Turbine Overspeed Trip Mechanism Because of Inadequate Spring Tension	12/7/90	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.
90-75	Denial of Access to Current Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facilities	12/5/90	All Michigan holders of NRC licenses.

OL = Operating License
 CP = Construction Permit

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OFC	:VIB:DRIS	:SC:VIB:DRIS	:BC:VIB:DRIS	:TECH EDITOR*	:DD:DRIS:NRR*	:D:DRIS:NRR*
NAME	:*WHaass:sm/djh	:*GCwalina	:UPotapovs*	:	:BDLlaw	:BKGrimes
DATE	:10/16/90:	:10/16/90	:12//90*	:12//90	:12/07/90	:12/08/90

OFC	:GCB:DOEA:NRR*	:D:DOEA:NRR	:OGC	:	:	:
NAME	:CHBerlinger	: <i>CEROSSA</i>	:*	:	:	:
DATE	:12/11/90	:12/2/90	:12/ /90	:	:	:

DOCUMENT NAME: IN 91-01

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- DISTRIBUTION:
~~VIB Reading File
 DRIS Reading File
 Central File
 WHaass
 GCwalina
 UPotapovs
 BGrimes
 BLiaw
 CBerlinger
 CRossi~~

Document Name: IMPALA INFORMATION NOTICE

*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE SHEET

*change to permit work on
 occurred with GCwalina
 on 12/27/90. CERossi
 Note was attached
 indicating main
 reviewed on 11/27/90.
 11/26 or CERossi*

OFC	:VIB:DRIS	:SC:VIB:DRIS	:BC:VIB:DRIS	:TECH EDITOR	:DD:DRIS:NRR	:D:DRIS:NRR
NAME	:*WHaass:sm/djh	:*GCwalina	:UPotapovs*	:	:BDLiaw	:BKGrimes
DATE	:10/16/90:	:10/16/90	:12//90*	:12//90	:12/07/90	:12/08/90

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Telephone conversation with the U.S. government's Defense Criminal Investigative Service has informed the NRC that Impala Electronics, known for its responsiveness to requests for quick delivery of resistors, was suspended from government contracting in December 1989, closed its doors for business as of January 1990, and was indicted for trial in August 1990.

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BGrimes

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