April 19, 1999

To: All Class B, B-1 and C Licensed Firms

From: Boyd Petty, Supervisor
Licensing and Fire Information Section

The Fire Equipment Distributors of Louisiana has notified this office that several manufacturers of dry chemical suppression systems were no longer supporting the sale and servicing of these systems. This office was also requested to determine a timeframe for the replacement of these systems. After review of this request, it has been determined that this office will not require the immediate replacement of these systems but will continue the current policy already in effect regarding similar systems. In a memo dated October 1, 1993, requirements for the replacement of the Safety 1st ARS-30 system were established. These requirements required the Safety 1st "A" series systems to be condemned when they no longer complied with their U.L. listing for any of the following reasons:

1. Additional equipment were placed beneath them.
2. They needed repair in which manufacturer parts were no longer available.
3. They had been discharged.
4. They were due for hydrostatic testing.

In addition to this, when any maintenance inspection revealed deficiencies as per NFPA 17:9-3 the system was to be red tagged. These same requirements shall now apply to all dry chemical suppression systems. Therefore, when any dry chemical suppression system cannot be corrected for any reason to NFPA requirements and to the manufacturer's specifications, it shall be red tagged and this office notified in writing.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter please call me at 1-800-256-5454 or 504-925-6766.

CC: Jerry Jones, Assistant Deputy Secretary
Pat Slaughter, Administrative Director
District Offices
Health Care Section
Fire Prevention Bureaus
Fire Equipment Distributors of Louisiana

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Smoke Detectors Save Lives!!

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