



TO :

FROM : National Wildfire Coordinating Group

REPLY TO : NWCG@nifc.gov

DATE : 10/22/2002

SUBJECT : SAFETY ADVISORY : Defective Wiring, Single Cell Headlamp

The attached cache memo was released today in reference to a wiring problem in single cell headlamps (NFES #0713, NSN 6230-01-387-1399) which may initiate combustion of the plastic battery housing. Please insure this memo gets wide distribution to all firefighters within your agency .



NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER

3833 South Development Avenue
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9216 NFES (FA240)

October 22, 2002

NATIONAL FIRE EQUIPMENT SYSTEM CACHE MEMORANDUM NO. 03-1



To: NFES National Incident Support Caches

From: Paul Naman, NFES Representative - NIFC

Subject: Defective Wiring, Single Cell Headlamp, NFES # 0713



It has been reported that examples of the single cell headlamp (NFES # 0713, NSN 6230-01-387-1399) have been found with defective wiring. This is the headlamp which uses four AA size batteries. Due to improper assembly or wear of wiring insulation the bare battery wires can cross. This situation can produce enough heat to initiate combustion of the plastic battery housing. This may be a problem in new or refurbished headlamps.



All inventory of these headlamps should be inspected for this problem. To inspect, first open the battery compartment and pull the battery pack out far enough to allow for examination of the wiring assembly. Examine the crimped wire ends attached to the clear, oval snap connector (9v battery style). If enough wire insulation was removed at this connection to allow the bare copper wires to contact each other, the headlamp should be removed from service.



If you have any questions or comments on this information contact Dennis Davis, Missoula Technology and Development Center, at (406) 329-3929.

/S/ Paul E. Naman



- cc:
- State Fire Management Officers - BLM
- Regional Directors Fire and Aviation Management - USFS
- Technology Development Centers - San Dimas, Missoula
- Agency Directors - NIFC
- Logistics Center - NICC
- Ray Balli - GSA
- Paul Solarz - USFS

