

## Bulletin No. 2021032

DATE: September 30, 2021  
TO: Authorized ANSUL® Extinguisher Distributors  
FROM: Product Management, Portables and Agents  
SUBJECT: K-GUARD Class-K Fire Extinguisher Safety Notice

### **WARNING**

#### **IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE**

**If you own, sell or service ANSUL® K-GUARD Fire Extinguisher, please read and follow the instructions of this BULLETIN**

**FAILURE TO READ AND FOLLOW THE INFORMATION IN THIS BULLETIN INCREASES THE RISK THAT AN ANSUL K-GUARD FIRE EXTINGUISHER COULD FAIL TO DISCHARGE IN A FIRE SITUATION.**

Johnson Controls (JCI) has received isolated reports of ANSUL® K-GUARD Model K01-3 fire extinguishers not discharging. Most were reported after the extinguishers were pulled for service at their hydrostatic cycle. In units that were returned to JCI, corrosion was found in the nozzle which limited or prevented the discharge of the agent. Further investigation found corrosion inside the valve in the agent discharge path. We concluded the internal coating of some valves may not be manufactured to our specification which prevents corrosion occurring between the agent and the brass valve. During discharge of the extinguisher, the corrosion product may dislodge and travel through the hose and into the nozzle. If the corrosion product is large enough, it may limit or prevent agent being discharged.

The K-GUARD Model K01-3 fire extinguisher is now provided with a stainless steel valve which is compatible with the agent.

#### **Affected Parts/Time Period**

<b>Part No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
434909	K01-3 Shipping Assembly (UL)
439654	K01-3 Shipping Assembly (ULC)

The K-GUARD Model K01-3 fire extinguisher was introduced in April 2013. Affected Model K01-3 fire extinguishers will have the model name on the nameplate and **no stamping** marks on the valve. Valves made of stainless steel have a stamp in the valve under the handle **do not** need to be replaced. K-GUARD Models K01-1 and K01-2 are not affected.

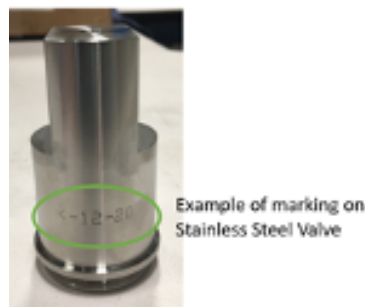
**Main Telephone Number: +1-800-862-6785 or +1-715-735-7415**

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One Stanton Street  
Marinette, WI 54143-2542  
[www.ansul.com](http://www.ansul.com)





## Action

*K-GUARD extinguishers manufactured between April 2013 and July 2020 should have the valve replaced no later than their next inspection/service cycle.*

- Please contact [kguard@jci.com](mailto:kguard@jci.com) to receive a supply of replacement valves at no charge. JCI will make every effort to supply the full quantity of valves needed. However, JCI may be required to supply replacement valves in increments over several months depending on available supply.
- Inspect the K-GUARD fire extinguishers no later than the next required inspection and confirm:
  1. Model is the K01-3
  2. There are no manufacturer/date stamping marks on the valve (as demonstrated above)
- Complete the replacement according to the Valve Replacement Instructions. The instructions are included with every replacement valve and available on the ANSUL® Distributor Portal.
- In support of our Distributors and recognizing that there will be incremental time to complete the replacement while conducting your routine service trip, JCI will issue a credit of \$10.00 for every valve replaced. To receive the credit, an affidavit must be submitted that includes certain information about the unit including its serial number. Please make sure you understand what information is required before leaving the site where the extinguisher is located. The affidavit will be sent to via email when you request replacement valves. The affidavit explains how it is to be completed and submitted for reimbursement.
- Once you receive the credit from Johnson Controls, you may scrap the valve.
- Any replacements valves that are not used as part of this safety replacement program, should be returned to JCI or you will be invoiced for them.

## Valve inventory

If you have inventory of the K-GUARD Model K01-3, either complete units or K-GUARD Valve Replacement Assembly (Part No. 452259) that qualify for replacement, please contact [kguard@jci.com](mailto:kguard@jci.com) and we will provide replacement units or a credit. Johnson Controls will organize the return of the units.

## Valve Replacement Instruction

Instructions for the replacement are included with each replacement valve. In addition, a video demonstrating the replacement can be found.

All other routine inspections should be performed according to K-GUARD Wet Chemical Fire Extinguishers – Operation, Inspection, Service and Maintenance, and Recharge Manual (Part No. 429656).



Should you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact your Territory Sales Manager or Technical Services as noted below.

Thank you for your continued support of ANSUL® brand fire extinguishers.

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