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# SERVICE BULLETIN

DATE: March 23, 2015

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SUBJECT: Enhanced Inspection Procedures for Disposable Halon Blend Fire Extinguishers Manufactured by Protection R.T., Inc.

MODELS AFFECTED: RT-A400, RT-A600, RT-A1200 Manufactured in 2012 and thereafter

TIME OF COMPLIANCE: The required action should be completed at the earliest opportunity.

Analysis of H3R Aviation warranty return data indicates that certain H3R Aviation-distributed fire extinguisher models manufactured in 2012 and 2013, appear to fall below the requisite minimum gross weight sooner than the historical norm. It is the opinion of H3R Aviation that post-2013 production of these models may also experience premature leakage at higher than normal rates, though currently available data does not yet indicate any issues.

In the interest of safety, we are directing enhanced inspection for the three affected models, all manufactured by Protection RT, Inc., in Quebec, Canada. The three models are the disposable, aerosol-type fire extinguishers containing a blend of Halon 1211 and Halon 1301 listed above. The year of manufacture can be determined by locating a label affixed either to the underside of the cylinder, or to the UL nameplate.

**NOTE: Our data is limited to returns to H3R Aviation of H3R Aviation-distributed products that were accepted under warranty during the warranty period. Our data does not include information on extinguishers that the manufacturer has sold to other customers.**

Returns within 2 Year Warranty Period by Year of Manufacture

Model	Year of manufacture		
	2007-2011	2012	2013
RT-A400	0.081%	0.139%	0.302%
RT-A600	0.122%	2.326%	1.119%
RT-A1200	0.154%	0.194%	0.505%

The manufacturer has been informed of our findings, has indicated that they have conducted their own internal analysis, and has assured us that the issue has been addressed and corrected to their satisfaction. However, in the interest of safety, each affected extinguisher that

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ships from our facility will bear a label that states, “Weigh this unit before each flight.” Note that the manufacturer has neither endorsed nor co-authored the contents of this Service Bulletin.

National Fire Protection Association Standard No. 10, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers, establishes minimum inspection and maintenance procedures for fire extinguishers. We believe that our enhanced inspection directive is in line with the requirements of NFPA 10, which calls for determining fullness by weighing or hefting at least monthly, and as often as daily if circumstances indicate the need. Fire extinguishers, by their nature, leak, and “hefting” provides only an approximation of an extinguisher’s fullness. Given the importance of an aviation fire extinguisher, and bearing in mind that these extinguishers have no pressure gauge to visually indicate low pressure, weighing the extinguisher, and weighing it before each flight provides maximum assurance that it will function as intended.

Although each extinguisher is inspected and weighed prior to leaving our facility, and per NFPA 10 the unit is supposed to be weighed prior to installation, we view this recurrent measurement as necessary to mitigate the risk of a slow leak that might be otherwise undetected.

H3R Aviation distributors of affected units who have extinguishers remaining in stock should apply a label that states “Weigh this unit before each flight” to each affected extinguisher remaining in stock. This advice is in addition to low-weight instructions already on each extinguisher and is calculated to help avoid safety risk from leakage.

H3R Aviation distributors should share a copy of this Service Bulletin with each customer to whom affected units have already been sold / shipped.

End-users who have purchased (or otherwise received) affected units without the “Weigh this unit before each flight” label are requested to apply a label that states “Weigh this unit before each flight” to each extinguisher. They are further requested to weigh each affected extinguisher before each flight.

It is important to note that effective January 1, 2015, H3R Aviation relocated to the address shown on this bulletin. Labeling on the extinguishers directs return of low weight extinguishers for recycling to our former address in Larkspur, California. **IMPORTANT! DO NOT SEND PACKAGES TO THE LOCATION SHOWN ON THE EXTINGUISHER LABELING AS THEY WILL LIKELY BE RETURNED TO THE SENDER.** Warranty returns and returns for the purpose of recycling should be sent to Protection R.T., Inc. at the address shown on the warranty enclosed in the extinguisher packaging.

Protection R.T., Inc.  
564 Orly Avenue  
Dorval, Quebec , H9P 1E9  
T. 514-631-1794  
prtinc@videotron.ca

If you have further questions or would like to discuss alternatives to these extinguishers, we are available to assist you. Also, labels for affected extinguishers currently in inventory or in service, are available. Inquiries should be directed to Chris Dieter at extension 802 or Robin Critelli at extension 801.

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