



Badger Fire Protection  
www.badgerfire.com

A UTC Fire & Security Company

# TECHNICAL BULLETIN

## #110-0110

**Date: May 2003**

### **Subject: Fire Extinguisher Replacement Terminology**

There are several terms commonly used within the extinguisher industry to rationalize why a particular model of fire extinguisher may have been removed from service. Because these terms have very different meanings and implications, it is important that they be understood and properly used. This bulletin will attempt to identify and briefly explain each of these terms as they apply to fire extinguishers.

#### ***OBSOLETE***

The term ***obsolete*** is a term commonly referenced within a code or standard such as NFPA-10 to identify a type of extinguisher hardware that it recommends should no longer be used or serviced. The obsolete hardware recommendations are typically not brand or model specific. By being referenced within an applicable code, the removal of these items from service is required and mandated.

#### ***DISCONTINUED***

The term ***discontinued*** is commonly used by manufacturers to identify various extinguisher models or product lines that they no longer intend to produce or support with replacement service parts. Unlike "obsolete" or "recalled" references the term "discontinued" does not directly mean or imply existing products in service require any form of immediate action. While various code references clearly require that only listed extinguishers can be used for fire protection requirements the product listing for a discontinued product is technically not compromised until it can no longer be serviced, recharged or repaired with components specifically identified in its service manual.

#### ***RECALLED***

The term ***recalled*** is typically utilized by agencies or manufacturers to address a recommendation to remove a product from service and take a specific course of action. Depending upon the degree of action required, the product may need to be disposed of or returned to a specified location. While product recall notices can address various identified groups or categories of products produced, they are typically model specific.

#### ***CONDEMNED***

The term ***condemned*** is used whenever a specific service tolerance or condition identified by the manufacturer, DOT code or NFPA standard recommendation requires an extinguisher to be removed from service and destroyed. The destruction of condemned fire extinguishers shall be done by the owner or under his direction, following appropriate guidelines.

Should you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact your local Badger equipment distributor, visit the Badger web site at [www.badgerfire.com](http://www.badgerfire.com) or contact Badger at (434) 964-3200.