



Dear NACO Member,

United States Coast Guard Headquarters
Washington, DC
May 10, 2006 Safety Alert 4-06

The U.S. Coast Guard has recently learned that Pains Wessex, a United Kingdom company, has announced a recall of its White Collision Warning (MK7) Hand Flares Item No. 52651. The recall follows a recent incident in which an individual was seriously injured while using the White Hand Flare. The company has identified that there may be a risk of misfire and is recalling all white flares to prevent further injury.

The White Hand Flare is sold on its own, as a part of the Collision Warn-Off Kit, or in the ORC RORC Distress Kit.

Customers with unexpired White Hand Flares are requested not to use the flare and to return it immediately to the place of purchase for a full refund. Those having questions may call +44(0)2392 623962 during office hours or contact the company via email at recall@pwss.com. Persons with expired White Hand Flares should call +44(0)2392 623965.

No other Pains Wessex products are being recalled. Pains Wessex, Australia Aurora White Hand Flares are not affected.

The U.S. Coast Guard strongly recommends that all vessel owners and operators who have this equipment onboard their vessels follow the recommendations per the Pains Wessex recall notice. Additional information is available at <http://www.mcmurdo.co.uk/>.

Questions or comments regarding this safety alert may be addressed to Ms. Alexandra Kim of the U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters Lifesaving and Fire Safety Standards Division at (202) 372-1394 or AKim@comdt.uscg.mil.

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National Association of Charterboat Operators