04 MARCH 2021

Technical Bulletin (TB-2003-05): Apollo Flame Detectors Update

Reason for notification:

Following our previous communications, we would like to remind customers of issues seen with the Apollo Flame Detectors and the need to undertake regular maintenance and testing of these devices and update customers of current lead time for flame detector orders.

The issues seen were that in a limited number of cases the IR sensor may not be calibrated correctly, resulting in misinterpretation of signal received and potentially the Flame Detector not responding to a flame. We also understand that this issue may not be detected by the Flame Detector Test Set (29600-226) or the internal device self-test. This impacts our multiple-IR detectors; IR3 & UV/IR2, but not the UV-only flame detectors.

Reminder on what to do:

We would like to remind customers and end users that they should conduct regular maintenance and testing of the Apollo Flame detection products, according to the risk and environment in which the product(s) are located. The frequency of such maintenance and test schedule should be revisited at regular intervals to ensure that it remains appropriate. All potentially affected models should be tested with a live flame or a modified Test Torch where it is safe to do so. When it is not safe to test a device with a live flame in the relevant location, we recommend that where appropriate you remove the device and undertake a live flame test in a safe location. Testing with a live flame should only be conducted in a safe environment.

1. If your most recent functional test on any of listed products was completed successfully using a live flame, <u>no further testing is needed</u>, however we would ask you to confirm the number of devices tested and passed.
2. If you test using the Flame Detector Test Set or the internal device self-test, we would ask you to schedule a functional test as soon as possible. It is important to bear in mind that this needs to be done with a live flame, but only where it is safe to do so. If it is not possible to test safely with a live flame in the installed environment, please remove the detector and undertake the test in a safe environment if that is appropriate.
3. If you / your customer does not presently test with a live flame and it is safe to do so, we recommend conducting the test using one of the following options:

    a. Standard pan-fire test, using a $0.1m^2$ n-heptane fire at 25m from the detector, as per EN54 Part 10

    b. A camping stove with a flame that's approximately 15cm high by 1.5cm wide at ~2.4m from the detector

c. A Zippo-style cigarette lighter with a flame that's approximately 4cm high by 1cm wide at ~70cm from the detector, waved to provoke flicker

Note: if a flame triggers an alarm; despite being smaller and closer, then the detector does not have sensor issues and is safe to use

As we previously requested in our communication of 1st December 2020, you are asked to confirm to your Apollo account manager that the information previously provided regarding the Apollo Flame issue and Test Torch Modifications has been communicated to all of your potentially affected customers. **We would like to remind you that this is your obligation and if you are yet to inform your customers, we strongly encourage you to do so at your earliest convenience. We have been in contact with regulatory bodies across the EU who have requested distributor contact information so that they can check first-hand that this information has been shared with end customers. It is important for us all to appreciate that we have a responsibility to communicate the issues to the market, we to you and you to your customers.**

Lead time:

In October communication we informed customers of activities taken by our supplier and sister company, FFE to investigate the issues seen, root-causes and changes to manufacturing process. Due to the enhanced testing procedures in the production process any new orders were subject to a circa 12-week lead time. Despite the long lead times we have worked with our supplier and customers to clear the order back log and build Apollo held stock levels to allow for return of normal ordering lead times.

The following SKUs are available to order with immediate effect, whilst the stock lasts:

Item number	Item Name
55000-019APO	Conventional Flame Detector (IR3) [SIL2]
55000-020APO	XP95 Flame Detector (IR3)
55000-021APO	XP95 Exd Flame Detector (IR3) - Flameproof
55000-022APO	XP95 Flame Detector (UV) - Base Mount
55000-023APO	XP95 Flame Detector (UV/IR2) - Base Mounted
55000-024APO	XP95 Flame Detector (IR3) - Base Mounted
55000-026MAR	Series 65 Marine Flame Detector (UV) - Base Mount
55000-062APO	Conventional Exd Flame Detector (IR3) - Flameproof [SIL2]
55000-280APO	XP95 Flame Detector (IR2)
55000-295APO	XP95 Exd Flame Detector (IR2) – Flameproof

Flame detector SKUs not listed in the table above remain subject to 12-week lead time.

Questions:

Should you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to call your account manager directly.

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