



## **Safety Notice**

### **SCBA Universal Air Connection (UAC) and Quick-Fill® Hose Fittings**

June 10, 2016

**MSA Corporate Center**  
1000 Cranberry Woods Drive  
Cranberry Township, PA 16066  
800.MSA.2222  
www.MSAsafety.com

**Dear MSA SCBA Customer,**

MSA is issuing this *Safety Notice* due to the potential inability to connect Quick-Fill and UAC fittings. These fittings are used on SCBA, portable air-supply rescue systems, and associated hose assemblies. We apologize for any inconvenience that this condition and the corrective actions outlined below may cause.

MSA has received field reports concerning the inability to connect female Quick-Fill fittings with male UAC fittings. MSA promptly notified Eaton Corporation, the manufacturer of these fittings, of this condition. Through testing and analysis, Eaton detected manufacturing inconsistencies, involving certain male and female fittings that may result in a cup seal blow-out and prevent the fittings from connecting. A blow-out can occur to the cup seal in a male UAC fitting when the female Quick-Fill fitting is being disconnected. A blown cup seal prevents the male fitting from fully connecting on the next connection attempt, thus preventing the transfer of air between the fittings. A male cup seal blow-out is possible if either the male or female fitting exhibit the above mentioned manufacturing inconsistencies. Eaton has identified the manufacturing date range for couplings that may exhibit these inconsistencies, which enables field replacement of affected couplings.

**MSA is replacing all male UAC and female Quick-Fill fittings within the Eaton affected date range provided below. If you have any affected fittings, follow the steps provided in the Temporary Use of Affected Fittings section below and contact your local MSA Fire Service Distributor to arrange for installation of replacement fittings as soon as possible.**

Replacement fittings must be installed by an MSA CARE certified repair technician. If you need assistance locating an MSA Fire Service Distributor, please contact MSA Customer Service using the appropriate contact information provided below. Once replacement fittings are installed, the CARE technician will destroy the old fittings, so they are not reused.

#### **Identifying Affected Fittings:**

Affected fittings can be identified by Eaton's date code, which is marked on the fitting (see photos below). The first three digits of the date code are in Julian Date format for the specified year, which is indicated by the next two digits. For example, a fitting that is marked "060 15" would have been manufactured on March 1, 2015. If the date code on the fitting has six digits, read the first five digits.

- **Male Fitting** – MSA part number 485070, Eaton part number FD17-1082-10-04, Julian Date Codes – 060 15 through 243 15 (manufactured March 1, 2015 through August 31, 2015).
- **Female Fitting** – MSA part number 485071, Eaton part number FD17-1003-04-04, Julian Date Codes – 060 15 through 365 15 and 001 16 through 031 16 (manufactured March 1, 2015 through January 31, 2016).

Eaton's Date Code in Julian Date format is stamped on hex.  
Example: 060 15 (March 1, 2015)



**Male Coupling**

**Female Coupling**

### **Temporary Use of Affected UAC Fittings:**

MSA is working with Eaton to arrange for the appropriate supply of replacement fittings and is also working with Fire Service Distributors to arrange for the installation of those fittings. Until replacement fittings are installed, perform the following connection test on affected male UAC fittings to ensure a cup seal blow-out condition does not exist. This will enable continued use of the SCBA while waiting for replacement fittings.

This test must be performed each time a female Quick-Fill fitting (either inside or outside the affected date code range) is disconnected from an affected male UAC fitting. The test will determine if a cup seal blow-out occurred during the disconnection, which would prevent the male fitting from connecting on the next connection attempt.

Since it is also possible for a female fitting within the affected range to cause a cup seal blow-out on a male fitting that is outside the affected range, you should also test any unaffected male fittings that may have been connected to an affected female fitting. If you have male fittings outside of the affected range that fail this test and do not connect or leak, MSA will replace them free of charge.

Additionally, affected UAC fittings that have never been connected to a female Quick-Fill fitting need not be tested. However, these fittings should be replaced.

The step-by-step procedure is as follows:

1. Pressurize the SCBA to at least 2500 psi.
2. Connect a female Quick-Fill fitting to the SCBA's UAC fitting. The female fitting can be part of a trans-fill hose, fill line (not with an open end), or a RIT kit. If available, the female fitting should be outside the affected date code range. If not available, you can use a female fitting that is inside the affected date code range for this test.
3. Verify that the connection between the female Quick-Fill fitting and male UAC fitting is complete, and check for audible leaks.



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4. If the connection cannot be made, or if leaks are present, remove the SCBA from service and have the UAC fitting replaced before the SCBA is put back into service.
5. If the connection can be made and no leaks are present, carefully disconnect the female Quick-Fill fitting from the male UAC fitting. A small burst of escaping air during disconnection is normal; however, if you hear or detect an abnormally loud “pop” or rush of air during disconnection, repeat this connection test to ensure a cup seal blow-out has not occurred and that a successful connection can be made. A successful connection test indicates the male UAC fitting can remain in temporary service.

**MSA Customer Service Contact Information:**

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact MSA Customer Service as follows:

- U.S., Canada, or U.S. Territories – 1-866-672-0005 or by email at: [ProductSafetyNotices@MSAafety.com](mailto:ProductSafetyNotices@MSAafety.com).
- Outside the U.S., Canada, and U.S. Territories – 724-776-8626 or by email at: [LAMZonecs@MSAnet.com](mailto:LAMZonecs@MSAnet.com).

Again, we apologize for any inconvenience that this situation may cause; however, your safety and continued satisfaction with our products is most important to us.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles J. Seibel, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Charles J. Seibel, Jr.  
Manager of Product Safety

PS15020-13