



## **Safety Notice**

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

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

### **Amended Notice**

July 14, 2016

**Dear MSA SCBA Customer,**

*MSA is amending the June 10, 2016 Safety Notice concerning the inability to connect Quick-Fill and UAC fittings as follows:*

- a) *We are adding a secondary Eaton affected date range for both the male and female fittings. This additional date range is necessary after Eaton identified manufacturing inconsistencies with recently produced fittings. The added date range is indicated below and includes fittings that were shipped with new MSA products as well as replacement fittings provided to customers responding to our June 10, 2016 Safety Notice.*
- b) *We are clarifying the “Temporary Use of Affected UAC Fittings” section.*
- c) *Once the affected fittings are replaced, CARE technicians are to return all affected male and female fittings to MSA, rather than destroy them.*

*For clarification, this amended Safety Notice restates the relevant information from the initial Safety Notice and includes the above changes.*

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 fittings that may exhibit these inconsistencies, which enables field replacement of affected fittings.

**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 is to return the old fittings to MSA, 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 "06015" would have been manufactured on March 1, 2015. If the date code on the fitting has a sixth digit for the shift, read the first five digits.

- **Male Fittings** – MSA part number 485070, Eaton part number FD17-1082-10-04, Julian Date Codes – 06015 through 24315 (manufactured March 1, 2015 through August 31, 2015). *The secondary male affected date range includes Julian Date Codes – 12316 through 17916 (manufactured May 3, 2016 through June 28, 2016).*

*Eaton also advised that some male fittings manufactured between May 3, 2016 and May 7, 2016 were incorrectly marked and have the year and shift digits reversed. These fittings, which have the following Julian Date Codes, are also affected: 123116, 123216, 124116, 124216, 125116, 125216, 126116, 126216, 127116, 127216, 128116, and 128216.*

- **Female Fittings** – MSA part number 485071, Eaton part number FD17-1003-04-04, Julian Date Codes – 06015 through 36515 and 00116 through 03116 (manufactured March 1, 2015 through January 31, 2016). *The secondary female affected date range includes Julian Date Codes – 12316 through 17916 (manufactured May 3, 2016 through June 28, 2016).*

Eaton's Date Code in Julian Date format is stamped on hex.  
Example: 060151 (March 1, 2015)



**Male Fitting**

**Female Fitting**

### **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 the male UAC fittings described below to ensure a cup seal blow-out condition does not exist. This will enable continued use of the SCBA while waiting for replacement fittings. MSA will be prioritizing replacement parts for fittings that have experienced cup seal failure during testing. As stock levels return to normal we will begin providing warranty replacement parts for all affected fittings.

#### **Fittings that must be tested:**

- Any male UAC fitting inside the affected male date range that has ever been connected to any female fitting.
- Any male UAC fitting outside the affected date range that has ever been connected to a female fitting inside the affected female date range.

#### **When fittings must be tested:**

- Initial Test - Male fittings that meet the above criteria must be initially tested upon receipt of this Safety Notice.
- Subsequent Testing –
  - Male fittings inside the affected date range must be tested again after disconnecting any female fitting.
  - Male fittings outside the affected date range must be tested again after disconnecting a female fitting that is inside the affected date range.
  - It is important to note that this subsequent testing must be performed after every disconnection of the fittings that occurs to determine if the male fitting - and the SCBA - should continue in service. This includes after such activities as a training trans-fill operation.

#### **Fittings that do not need to be tested:**

- Male fittings that have not been connected to female fittings do not need tested.

#### **Fittings that MSA will replace:**

- Any fitting that falls inside of the affected male or female date range.
- Any male fitting outside of the affected date range that does not pass the test.

#### **The step-by-step male UAC fitting test procedure is as follows:**

1. Pressurize the SCBA to at least 2500 psi for high pressure 4500 psi SCBA, or at least 2000 psi for low pressure 2216 psi SCBA.
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.



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3. Verify that the connection between the female Quick-Fill fitting and male UAC fitting is complete, and check for audible leaks.
4. If the connection cannot be made, or if leaks are present, remove the SCBA from service and contact your local MSA Fire Service Distributor to arrange for installation of replacement fittings as soon as possible. If you have a CARE technician on your staff, you may contact MSA's Issues Resolution Group at 1-866-672-6977 to obtain replacement fittings immediately.
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 that reads "Charles J. Seibel, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Charles J. Seibel, Jr.  
Manager of Product Safety

PS15020-23