

Information Bulletin No. IB02-004

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ALERT

Air compressor with air receiver tank

Over 450,000 portable air compressors sold between 1983 to 1991 are being recalled by Ingersoll-Rand Company of Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey, USA through a voluntary program in cooperation with the US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). For details on the recall, see Information Bulletin No. IB02-003.

As noted in the news article from CPSC, all users of air compressors with air receiver tanks should know that these *“tanks do not have an infinite life. Tank life is dependent upon several factors, some of which include operating conditions, ambient conditions, proper installations, field modifications and the level of maintenance.”* These observations apply to every air receiver tank and not to just the specific tanks subject to the recall by this manufacturer.

An “air receiver tank” is a pressure vessel used to store compressed air. Due to the large amount of energy contained in pressure vessels in compressed air and other compressible fluid service, a sudden release of this energy will have potentially catastrophic consequences.

For safety, users must follow the manufacturers’ operation instructions. In particular, draining the tanks periodically will promote a reduction of internal corrosion. It is understood that some portable air receiver tanks are manufactured with an expiry date and consumers must be aware of the fact that these tanks should be discarded no later than the expiry date.

Dr. K. T. Lau, Ph.D., P.Eng.
Administrator and Chief Inspector
Alberta Boilers Safety Association
(780) 437-9100