

NWCG Equipment Technology Committee

National Fire Equipment System

Cache Memorandum: 23-03

November 16, 2023



To: NFES: National Interagency Support Caches (NISC)
From: Bill Yohn, Acting Chair, NWCG Equipment Technology Committee (ETC)
Subject: Hot/Cold Beverage Kits – Beverage bag and spout failure

Issue: Integrated spout failures reported on Hot/Cold beverage kit (NFES #0244) high-temperature beverage bags.

Action: Interagency Support Caches should discontinue the distribution of the hot beverage kit assemblies. Further direction to follow on stock management.

Background: Equipment specialists from the National Technology and Development Program (NTDP) conducted testing of beverage bags provided by both R5 caches following reports of spout failures. Failures of the spout/bag connection were recreated during testing. Comparisons were made to the beverage bags from the first article and prototype samples. It was determined that the spouts varied in design, some functioned as intended while others failed.



Beverage bag with integrated spout.



Four different safety seals (pull tab) and one foil dust cover seal.



Four different stem designs.

Additional Information: NTDP is evaluating solutions and interim options for beverage delivery.

Contact: Godot Apuzzo, Equipment Specialist, NTDP, 406-831-1874, godot.apuzzo@usda.gov

NWCG standards are interagency by design; however, the decision to adopt and utilize them is made independently by the individual member agencies and communicated through their respective directives systems.