



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Office of the
Fire Commissioner

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American Fire Retardant Corporation

The Office of the Fire Commissioner has received reports that the American Fire Retardant Corporation may be marketing fire retardant products in Canada.

Some of their products have a California State Fire Marshal approval based on Standard 1237.1 (Small Scale Test) in Barclays California Code of Regulations. The test is performed on materials that have been coated with the fire retardant product and not on the product itself.

Some of the fire retardant products meet a California standard. The British Columbia Fire Code regulates the fire retardant properties of drapes, curtains and decorative materials in public buildings. It does not regulate the fire retardant products themselves.

A comparison of the two standards has revealed that the California standard does not equal the requirements of NFPA 701.

Fabrics treated with the fire retardant products would **not** meet the British Columbia Fire Code Regulation for flame resistance. These fire retardant products may have a use in private dwellings, but not in occupancies where the British Columbia Fire Code applies.

The British Columbia Fire Code, Subsection 2.3.2, requires that drapes, curtains and decorative materials comply with CAN/ULC-S109-M, "Standard for Flame Tests of Flame Resistant Fabrics and Films" and NFPA 701 in certain occupancies. Hospital textiles, Article 2.3.2.3., must comply with CAN/CGSB-4.162.M, "Hospital Textiles-Flammability Requirements."

The contents of this Information Bulletin are not intended to be provided as legal advice and should not be relied upon as legal advice.

Information Bulletins are distributed to British Columbia Fire Departments, Local Assistants to the Fire Commissioner and where applicable, other related agencies and authorities, in order to provide general information on fire-related issues.

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