

Common Myth #7

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I buy “recycled” dry chemical for use in my recharging. I save a lot of money and it is “green” in concept.

I buy “recycled” dry chemical for use in my recharging. It saves me a lot of money and I can claim that I am “green”.

Description

No way! Used chemical that is recovered through unknown means, from unknown sources and undocumented practices should never go back into an extinguisher. Different grinds of chemical, loss of “fines”, different formulations/particle sizing, exposure to moisture/humidity and mixing of different chemical bases (such as ABC with Purple-K or Regular) will compromise the performance of the chemical on the fire.

We have had a couple of instances where our High Performance extinguishers had been filled by local distributors using “recovered” or “scrap” dry chemical. The extinguishers were then discharged on live fires in front of large industrial users with poor results. The color of the chemical was non-descript, neither yellow nor white nor purple nor light blue – more of a neutral gray. After much expense we ran the same fires with our standard Regular Dry Chemical and with the customers “salvaged” dry chemical. The results showed that the same operator could put out the fire three times in a row using our regular dry Chemical and could never put it out with the “salvaged” chemical. The distributor admitted that they had used salvaged dry chemical for the product demonstration in an effort to save money. They also could not believe the difference between the new chemical and what they had been using for training.

If you want to show superior performance with the products that you sell and service, always use new or original (not salvaged) Dry Chemical for training sessions.

NEVER USE RECYCLED OR SALVAGED CHEMICAL FOR PRODUCT DEMONSTRATION ON LIVE FIRES.

NEVER, EVER, USE “RECYCLED” OR “SALVAGED” CHEMICAL FROM AN UNKNOWN ORIGIN OR PROCEDURE FOR EXTINGUISHERS THAT WILL BE PLACED INTO SERVICE.

This is not to be mistaken with using a closed recovery system, recovering the chemical from a known source and putting back into that source in a timely manner.