

# **FLEX-TECH**

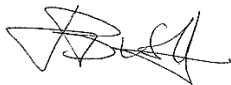
**HOSE & TUBING, LLC**

April 20, 2022

Forest River Executive Team,

We have become aware in the past few weeks of complaints at the plant level of cracks developing in our female quick disconnects that is either connected to our LP Gas Manifolds or shipped on specific Hose Assemblies sold separately. We have been working very closely with Leo Akins and his team on this issue. After an exhaustive effort to identify the problem and the source, we have determined that the crack is not being produced within our facility and therefore, has escaped our inspections as well as our 100% system leak checks. A potential crack may develop in your facility or, in rare cases, after you have assembled the system to an RV and performed pressure drop testing. The root cause for this crack has been identified as contamination and/or porosity in the brass from our 2<sup>nd</sup> tier brass sub-supplier and we have been unsuccessful at any level of insertion force (torque) to avoid the potential for cracking. Our records at this point indicate the relevant window for products that may contain cracks were shipped between July 1, 2021 and April 20, 2022.

At this point in time, we are in the very unfortunate situation where we simply do not have a viable solution to avoid cracks developing with our current quick disconnect inventory. Due to this situation, we have no choice but to ship manifold systems with pipe plugs where the QD is normally installed. We have a longer term fix that is approximately 5-6wks away and are working hourly to find alternate QD supply solutions in order to begin adding them back to the manifold systems. We sincerely apologize for this situation and know this is much more than a minor inconvenience. Our company has been in the LP Gas Industry for over 60 years and will continue to work with the Forest River Team to get past this challenge as quickly as possible.



Jeff Bush, President

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**ETP** international inc.  


CC: Leo Akins; Wayne Kaylor