



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

AUG - 2 2002

400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

**INITIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF  
DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. **02E-044** by the  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

**Part 573 Report Date:** July 22, 2002      **MANUFACTURER:** Norcold, Inc.

**MANUFACTURER CONTACT:** Mr. James Liggett  
Senior Vice President and General Manager

**FAX:** 937-497-3085

**SUBJECT:** 180,455 refrigerator cooling units model numbers 442, 443, 452, EV452, 453, 462, EV462, 463, EV463, 482, EV482, 483, EV483, 874, and 875 manufactured between January 1987 and May 1995. These refrigerators can experience a break down in a rubber seal within the gas valve. As the rubber seal ages, a leak may occur, allowing propane gas to accumulate in the burner area. The consequence can result in a fire, possibly causing serious injury or death.

This is an **initial** acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be forthcoming shortly. After our review of your report and associated documents, we may have additional comments or concerns.

**NOTIFICATION TO PURCHASERS**

In accordance with 49 CFR Part 577, please provide the agency with a draft owner notification letter for review prior to mailing. Also, provide any **final** documents pertaining to this recall campaign as they become available.

If you have any questions, please call:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kelly Schuler'.

Kelly Schuler, Safety Defect Analyst or Jonathan White, Chief  
On (202) 366-5227 or by FAX (202) 366-7882  
Defect and Recall Information Analysis Division  
[kschuler@nhtsa.dot.gov](mailto:kschuler@nhtsa.dot.gov)  
Faxed 8/2/02



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400 Seventh Street  
Washington, D.C.

AUG 14 2002

Mr. James G. Liggett  
Senior Vice President and General Manager  
Norcold, Inc.  
600 South Kuther Road  
Sidnet, OH 45365

NSA-11kjs  
02E-044

Dear Mr. Liggett:

We have reviewed Norcold, Inc.'s (Norcold) Defect Information Report dated July 22, 2002, submitted in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports." This recall involves 180,455 refrigerator cooling units model numbers 442, 443, 452, EV452, 453, 462, EV462, 463, EV463, 482, EV482, 483, EV483, 874, and 875 manufactured between January 1987 and May 1995. These refrigerators can experience a break down in a rubber seal within the gas valve. As the rubber seal ages, a leak may occur, allowing propane gas to accumulate in the burner area. The consequence can result in a fire, possibly causing serious injury or death. *The assigned NHTSA identification number for this campaign is 02E-044.*

**Norcold is responsible for the repair of this equipment from this day forward regardless of age or ownership.**

**QUARTERLY REPORTS**

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter **in which notification to purchasers occurs.** The current calendar quarter began on July 1 and ends on September 30, 2002. Therefore, Norcold's first quarterly report will be due in this office by October 30, 2002.

The following chart provides due dates for each of the six quarterly reports.

<u>QUARTER</u>	<u>QUARTER BEGINS</u>	<u>QUARTER ENDS</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	July 1, 2002	September 30, 2002	October 30, 2002
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	October 1, 2002	December 31, 2002	January 30, 2003
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	January 1, 2003	March 31, 2003	April 30, 2003

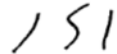


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888-327-4236

4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	April 1, 2003	June 30, 2003	July 30, 2003
5 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	July 1, 2003	September 30, 2003	October 30, 2003
6 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	October 1, 2003	December 31, 2003	January 30, 2004

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Kelly Schuler at (202) 366-5227 or fax at (202) 366-7882.

Sincerely,



Jonathan D. White, Chief  
Defect and Recall Information Analysis Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Safety Assurance