

HONEYWELL AND CSA ANNOUNCE REVISED RATING AND RECALL OF ELECTRIC BASEBOARD HEATER THERMOSTAT

Toronto, Ont. -- Honeywell, in cooperation with the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), today announced it is reducing the maximum rating of its electric baseboard heater thermostat model T4600 and CT1650 from 3800 to 2500 watts. Honeywell is also recalling about 3,600 units in Canada that are installed on loads over 2500 watts. When connected to high loads, this model may overheat, cause smoke damage, and may pose a potential fire hazard. In three instances in Canada and two in the United States, the product ignited when connected to baseboard heaters using loads over 3000 watts, causing fire damage to the thermostat casing and smoke damage to the wall area where it was mounted. No injuries have been reported.

The action applies only to the product sold as model T4600 through wholesalers and as model CT1650 through retailers. The model number is located underneath the snap-off front cover near the bottom of the thermostat body. The thermostat is rectangular in shape and white in colour. It has a digital temperature display window near the top with four programming buttons arranged vertically below. This product was also sold in Canada by Stelpro as part number ST4600.

About 36,000 units were sold in Canada and 26,000 in the United States. Honeywell estimates 10 percent have been installed on applications using loads over 2500 watts, and these are the target of the recall. The product was sold in Canada through contractors and wholesalers as well as through major retail outlets, membership club stores, and hardware stores between 1995 and 1998 for less than \$90. Retailers and wholesalers are being notified and existing stock is being retrieved from inventory.

Consumers who have this product installed in their homes should immediately call the toll-free number 1-877-575-4533 for information. For products that are installed at loads of 2500 watts or less, Honeywell will issue new labels to indicate the revised rating for appropriate use. If the thermostat has been connected to loads above 2500 watts, it should be returned and Honeywell will provide a replacement thermostat and refund. The toll-free line offers 24-hour service in English and French, as well as personal assistance. Information is also available on the internet at www.honeywell.com.



Honeywell T4600 or CT1650 electric baseboard heater thermostat