
October 2003

UL correction regarding companies selling ground fault circuit interrupters posing potential safety hazards

UL issued a public notice on Sept. 16, 2003 notifying consumers, electricians, manufacturers and distributors that certain ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI) manufactured by Shanghai Meihao Electric Inc. in 2003 were potentially hazardous.

The names of distributors or other sources of supply were identified, including VE (Vista Electrical Products Limited) and Orbit. UL has determined that VE (Vista Electrical Products Limited) and Orbit did not purchase or sell the potentially hazardous GFCIs produced in 2003 by Shanghai Meihao Electric Inc. UL regrets the error.

For an updated version of UL's public notice on potentially hazardous GFCIs, go to http://www.ulc.ca/news/news_viewer.asp?News_ID=48&Redirect=release.

If you believe that you may have a GFCI identified in this notice, return it to the place of purchase. If the GFCI is already installed in your home, stop using it immediately, contact a qualified electrician to verify the marking and date code, and have it replaced with a similarly rated UL Listed GFCI.

For technical inquiries from manufacturers, retailers, distributors and inspection authorities, please contact: Donald Ackerman, Field Reports Department, Tel: +1 847 664-2907 E-mail: Donald.H.Ackerman@us.ul.com.

October 2003

UL warns of potential electric shock hazard with Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) - UPDATE

Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada's affiliate, Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) notifies consumers, electricians, contractors and manufacturers that the GFCI described below does not meet current UL requirements and may pose a fire or electric shock hazard to users. UL encourages users to stop using the GFCI immediately and return it to the place of purchase. This information below supersedes UL's Sept. 16, 2003 public notice.

Name of product: Ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). Rated 15 or 20 Amps, 125 volts.

Units: More than 135,000.

Manufacturer: Shanghai Meihao Electric, Inc of Shanghai, China. The GFCIs are sold under the product name of The Designers Edge, People International Business Inc., Preferred Industries and USI Electric, Inc. UL believes the product may have been sold under other names as well.

Date of manufacture: January 2003 to August 2003.

Hazard: The GFCI may not trip when a ground fault is present, resulting in a risk of electric shock. The GFCI may pose a fire hazard when subjected to a voltage surge commonly associated with a lightning strike.

Identification:

On the GFCI: There will be a File Number and the date code "2003 X," with the "X" representing a number from 1 to 30. Checking the file number and date code is the best way to determine if the product in your home is subject to this public notice.

On the packaging: The Company Name and Part Number (see below).

Company Name	File Number	Part Number
Preferred Industries	E220379	GFCILO-15, GFCILO-20
Shanghai Meihao Electric, Inc	E220379	MH15, MH20, MH20B
People International	E220379	LT15, LT20
The Designers Edge	E178961	L-3200, L-3202
USI Electric Inc.	E197052	GF-715X, GF-716X, GF-720X, GF-721X series ICON-8158 and ICON-8208, USI-91XX and USI-92XX series (X will equal any number 0-9)

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The UL Listing Mark and the UL Mark for Canada may appear on the product and packaging. The UL Listing Mark and UL Mark for Canada is not authorized and the product is not considered Listed by UL or, its affiliate, Underwriters Laboratories of Canada (ULC).

Consumer Contact:

Shanghai Meihao Electric, Inc.	58 Shane Road Jiangqiao Town Jiading Borough Shanghai China	Tel: +86 021-59143130 Fax: + 86 021-59143700	
The Designers Edge	11730 N.E. 12th Street Bellevue, WA	Tel: +1-425-637-9601 Fax: +1-425-637-9603	www.designersedge.com
People International Business Inc.	Suite #300 12304 Santa Monica Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90025		
Preferred Industries	2001 NW 25th Avenue Pompano Beach, FL 33069	Tel: +1-954-972-9833	
USI Electric, Inc.	7-A, Gwynns Mill Court Owings Mills, MD, 21117	Tel: +1-800-390-4321 Fax: +1-410-363-2218	www.usielectric.com

Sold at: Electrical distributors and home centers since January 2003.

Remedy: If you believe that you may have a GFCI identified in this notice, return it to the place of purchase. If the GFCI is already installed in your home, stop using it immediately, contact a qualified electrician to verify the marking and date code, and have it replaced with a similarly rated UL Listed GFCI.

For technical inquiries from manufacturers, retailers, distributors and inspection authorities, please contact: Donald Ackerman, Field Reports Department, Tel: +1-847-664-2907 E-mail: Donald.H.Ackerman@us.ul.com.

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