

For Immediate Release
August 19, 2002
Release # 02-231

Fluke Recall Hotline: (800) 260-4819
CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772
CPSC Media Contact: Scott Wolfson (301) 504-0580 Ext. 1189

CPSC, Fluke Corp. Announce Recall of Digital Multimeters

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Fluke Corp., of Everett, Wash., is voluntarily recalling about 40,000 digital multimeters. About 17,200 were sold in the U.S. Multimeters are used to measure voltage, resistance and current. The recalled units can take longer than normal, up to 18 seconds, to display readings of AC voltages above 500 volts. Users can misinterpret the delayed reading to mean that high voltage is not present. If high voltage is present, users could be exposed to a risk of shock, electrocution, and thermal burns.

Fluke has received four reports from Canada and Australia, in which users experienced a delayed response while measuring high voltage, though no injuries were reported.

The recalled Fluke digital multimeters measure up to 1,000 volts alternating current (VAC) and direct current (VDC). "Fluke" and "175", "177" or "179" are written on the front of the unit. The tester body is yellow and black, and measures about 7.25-inches long by 3.5-inches wide. Recalled units have a serial number below 79000000. The serial number is written on the back of the instrument under the hinged stand. Home and hardware stores and industrial distributors nationwide sold these testers from January 2001 through October 2001 for between \$170 and \$215.

Consumers should stop using these testers immediately and contact Fluke for information on returning the recalled unit for a free repair. Consumers should call Fluke at (800) 260-4819 between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or go to Fluke's web site at www.fluke.com/170recall. To see a picture of the recalled product(s) and/or to establish a link from your web site to this press release on CPSC's web site, link to the following address:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02231.html>.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270, or visit CPSC's web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov/talk.html>. Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov>.