Date: November 20, 2008

To: All Fenwal® Engineered Systems Distributors

From: Mike Yakine, Product Manager, Detection & Control


Product Obsolescence Notice

On December 31, 2008, the 9th Edition of ANSI/UL 864 standard (Underwriters Laboratories), which has had an enormous impact on the worldwide fire protection industry, will take effect. Fire protection equipment covered by the standard and manufactured after the effectivity date will be required to comply with the 9th Edition requirements in order to be applied the UL mark. As you know this regulatory change will result in the phase out of the FENWALNET 2000-ML intelligent control panel.

Availability of FENWALNET2000-ML:

We are working hard on the new FENWALNET 6000-ML panel which will be 9th Edition listed. We anticipate that the market availability of this new panel will be late 2009. Therefore, in order to support your business without interruption in the interim period, Fenwal will undertake the last-time manufacture of a quantity of panel assemblies that we estimate will be required to support normal demand levels. No more FENWALNET 2000-ML panels can be built with their UL listing intact after December 31, 2008. Hence, if you have immediate needs or foresee an upcoming large demand, we highly recommend that you communicate your firm requirements to your Fenwal Regional Sales Manager by December 1st, 2008 as we will be unable to ship assembled, UL listed FENWALNET 2000-ML panels when the built-up quantities are depleted. The panels will be shipped on first come-first served basis while supplies last. Also, quantities may be limited per order unless allocated for a specific project requirement.

Availability of Spare Parts:

We are building spare parts for the FENWALNET 2000-ML to be available for the next three years. While we expect the stocked up quantities to last until about December 2011, availability of spares will depend on actual future demand levels. Naturally, if these spare parts are consumed prior to 2011, that part will not be available for purchase as of that date and will be withdrawn from our system without any further notice. Likewise, if our inventory level exceeds actual usage for a given part, that part will continue to be available beyond 2011; however it will be withdrawn without notice as soon as quantities on-hand are consumed.
While the new ANSI/UL864 standard has had significant effects on fire control panel manufacturers, system designers and installers will feel little impact as the design is largely driven by NFPA72 and other local, state and federal building codes. The new standard in fire protection will be a catalyst and a launch pad to better and safer fire protection products.

We thank you for your business and continued support. If you have any questions or concerns about the future of FENWALNET2000-ML product, please call your Fenwal Regional Sales Manager or the Detection & Control Marketing team in Ashland.