
FACTS SURROUNDING
YELLOW-JACKETED
CORRUGATED STAINLESS STEEL TUBING (“CSST”)

- Yellow-jacketed CSST is sold throughout the United States.
- Yellow-jacketed CSST product was originally designed in Japan.
- Yellow-jacketed CSST, in 1980 was brought to the United States with the goal that it be used as a substitute flexible gas delivery system to the more robust black iron pipe.
- From the gas meter in the alley behind the home, gas is brought to the home using buried black iron pipe under two pounds of pressure. The pipe rises above ground (where it is grounded) and enters the home up the wall to the attic space. Black pipe continues to a manifold located in the attic. From the manifold, yellow-jacketed CSST is installed and branches off the manifold and supplies natural gas to various appliances in the house, including gas cook tops, ovens, furnaces, fireplaces, dryers and grills.
- Yellow-jacketed CSST is an extremely thin-walled material with a wall thickness of only .010 inch, which is equivalent to four sheet of paper.
- Yellow-jacketed CSST product is deadly. It is deadly when installed according to the manufacturers own instructions.
- The yellow-jacketed CSST product is defective and unsafe for its intended purposes. The yellow-jacketed CSST product failed to conform to the product design and specifications of other similar products.
- The manufacturers of yellow-jacketed CSST did not conduct sufficient research and development for the yellow-jacketed CSST product before introducing it into the U.S. stream of commerce.
- The manufacturers of yellow-jacketed CSST do not provide, establish and/or follow proper and adequate control and/or procedures so as to ensure the safety and integrity of the product in the marketplace.
- The manufacturers of yellow-jacketed CSST did not test the yellow-jacketed CSST product to ensure its integrity and ability to withstand the electrical charge emitted from a direct lightning strike without being compromised.
- The manufacturers of yellow-jacketed CSST failed to warn consumers and intermediaries that a 6 AWG bonding / jumper wire will not sufficiently dissipate the electrical charge emitted from a lightning strike.
- The manufacturers of yellow-jacketed CSST did not warn consumers and intermediaries that lightning induced yellow-jacketed CSST failures can cause fires and loss of life.
- The manufacturers of yellow-jacketed CSST have not made safe all premises known to have used yellow-jacketed CSST gas plumbing by recalling the product for replacement with a safer alternative design.
- The manufacturers of yellow-jacketed CSST did not design, construct, fabricate, inspect and/or test the yellow-jacketed CSST product in conformity with the prevailing industry and national standards, including, but not limited to lightning strike testing.
- The manufacturers of yellow-jacketed CSST did not design the outer jacket of the yellow-jacketed CSST product so that it would efficiently dissipate the electrical charge produced by a direct or indirect lightning strike.

- The manufacturers of yellow-jacketed CSST have not instituted a safer alternative design for the yellow-jacketed CSST product.
- Since 1984 (14 years prior to the tragic death of Brennen Chase Teel), the manufacturers had actual knowledge of the danger that its yellow-jacketed CSST product was failing from the electrical charge emitted from lightning strikes and did little to modify its product with appropriate safeguards to ensure against continued failures.
- The manufacturers engaged a public relations firm to address and contain the problems with the yellow-jacketed CSST product and to develop and implement a media plan to manage the negative impact associated with the ever-increasing yellow-jacketed CSST product failures across the country, and in the State of Texas.
- The manufacturers have continued to market and distribute its yellow-jacketed CSST product knowing that it will not withstand the impact of the electrical charge produced by lightning.
- Effective September 18, 2012, the City of Lubbock, Texas banned new fuel gas piping installation involving the use of yellow-jacketed CSST due to a history of fire incidents within the City of Lubbock. The moratorium extends to any use of the product, whether for repairs, additions, alteration or new construction.

<http://buildinsp.ci.lubbock.tx.us/newsPage.aspx?ID=3616>