

Flashlight Batteries Pose Serious Burn and Fire Risks

Written by David Rosenthal

While many recalled products may only harm a few consumers, others pose far more serious threats because they're regularly used by numerous people. At present, many consumers are at risk of suffering serious burns and fire hazards if they continue using flashlight batteries sold by NexTorch, Inc., of Mukiteo, Washington. In fact, one individual who used **NexTorch™ NT123A flashlight batteries** saw them rupture open and catch on fire. That consumer suffered burns to his body, as well as to his clothing and vehicle.

When and Where These Batteries Were Sold

These potentially dangerous batteries were sold by law enforcement supply stores and firearm dealers. Other consumers may have purchased them online from either amazon.com or the company's Web site: www.nextorch.com. The batteries were sold between July 2007 and July 2011. Everyone who may have bought NexTorch flashlight batteries during that time frame should check to see if their batteries have the number **NT123A** on them. At the request of the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), NexTorch is voluntarily recalling about 16,000 of these batteries.

Description and Sales Price of These Batteries

Each recalled NexTorch NT123A Flashlight battery bears a **trademark** ™ **superscript** rather than a registered trademark ® superscript. The body of each battery has a silver metallic color and bears the NexTorch logo, along with the words "Lithium Battery" and "Ultra Power." Each battery's voltage (3V) is also noted on it. NexTorch flashlights are often sold with these batteries. Consumers were usually charged two dollars (\$2.00) for each battery. (Readers can view pictures of both the recalled NexTorch batteries and the replacements being offered by

the company by visiting the following link:

http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml11/11296.html)

Remedies and Advice for Consumers

If you own any of these batteries, *please stop using them immediately.* Next, get in touch with NexTorch to find out how you can receive your replacement batteries. You can contact NexTorch by calling toll-free: **1-877-867-2415** between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, Pacific Time. Consumers can also visit the company's Web site at: www.nextorch.com and send an email to NexTorch at: usa@nextorch.com.

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