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The Holmes Group Recalls Oil-Filled Electric Heaters Due to Fire Hazard

DES MOINES, IOWA (June 15, 2007) – The Kansas City Regional Office of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has asked the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA) to inform health care facilities in the state about an electric heater recall.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the Holmes Group of Milford, MA, announced a voluntary recall of two of its oil-filled electric heaters. The recall involves Holmes heaters with model number HOH2505 and HOH2520. The model number and “Holmes®” are printed on the side of the unit near the bottom (see photos below).

The Holmes Group has received reports of 59 incidents involving the recalled heaters. There were 12 reports of minor injuries including four reported burns. There were 36 reports of property damage including four fires that caused between \$41,000 and \$200,000 in damage. A poor electrical connection within the heater can lead to overheating and poses fire and thermal burn hazards.

Approximately 300,000 electric heaters were sold at discount department stores, hardware stores, and other retailers from September 2005 through February 2007 for between \$40 and \$50. Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled heaters and contact the Holmes Group to receive a free replacement heater. For additional information, contact The Holmes Group at (800) 306-2471 anytime, or visit the firm's Web site at www.holmesoilfilledheaterrecall.com.



HOH2520



HOH2505