

Technical Services Bulletin 17-05 California Prop. 65 Warning Labels

All R.H. Peterson products now include a new label that is applied to the exterior of all product packaging, as shown below:



California State Proposition 65, enacted in 1986, requires businesses to provide warnings to Californians about exposures to chemicals “known to the State of California to cause cancer or reproductive harm.” These chemicals may be in products, in homes or businesses, or released into the environment. The list of these chemicals, which is updated once a year, has now grown to over 900. As the list has grown, so have the requirements for businesses to notify their customers.

Californians have become accustomed to seeing these warnings on business entrances, all food retailers, including grocery stores, restaurants, coffee shops and alcohol retailers, gas stations, vehicle repair facilities, parking garages, hotels, motels, beauty supply stores, amusement parks, etc. The warnings are also common on many consumer products.

R.H. Peterson makes products which may expose people to some of the listed products, including; LP Gas, Natural Gas, Charcoal, nickel, chromium, etc.. Although the products we manufacture are sold (and used) all over North America, we cannot know the final destination of most of the products and as a result, are required to label all products sold with this warning.

Notes from Leslie Bortz

We, as well as many other manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers, including Amazon and Target, have been informed by a law firm (who I believe is abusing a well-intended law) that we may not be fully complying with California Proposition 65. In our case, we were told that because our Charcoal Firemaster Grill burns charcoal, which produces carbon monoxide that has been “identified by the State of California as a chemical known to cause reproductive toxicity”, we were required to warn consumers per the Proposition. To the best of our knowledge and that of experts in the field, no one has ever experienced harm due to inhalation of carbon monoxide produced from using a charcoal grill outdoors, and keeping it outdoors after use.

Please note: Charcoal sold in bags at many stores do not have a Proposition 65 warning. This is true for the largest makers of charcoal.

We are now aware that any product that burns any fuel (i.e., automobiles, cooking equipment, fireplaces, indoor heaters, etc.) is subject to the Proposition 65 warning requirement. This law has become unwieldy and unreasonable, and we are fighting it as we have fought unfair regulations in the past. However, temporarily, to insure full compliance with Proposition 65 and avoid immense fines, we are placing the warning on the outside packaging of all of our products.

Please be assured that we at RHP believe that all of our products, when properly installed and used, are, and have proven to be, a safe and an enjoyable part of your home and your family gatherings.

For additional information on Proposition 65 warnings, please visit www.p65warnings.ca.gov.