

Introduction

This notice is intended to inform all consignors, consignees and operators of LLWR approved TC14 and TC19 drums of clamping band failures; remedial actions being taken and advise Customers on actions they should take. Please circulate this information to all relevant personnel within your organisation.

Current situation

LLWR Packaging Services are investigating these incidents with the drum supplier to understand the root cause and correct the problem. The clamp rings have been traced to the following drum batch numbers;

- TC14 IP-2 drum batches ID1371, ID1400, ID1401 and ID1426
- TC19 IP-2 drum batches ID1387, ID1406, ID1407, ID1410 and ID1426

Meanwhile we have suspended deliveries and manufacture until a solution is in place.

Customers should assess whether they wish to replace the clamp bands prior to making any further consignments. As an example, LLWR site operations have assessed the problem and have decided to replace the clamp bands before recommencing consignment of TC14 and TC19 drums.

Customers may still submit new drum requests into E-logistics, however the lead time to delivery for these orders will be temporarily increased.

Component Failure

The component failures are all regarding the spot weld used to secure the locking ring nut to the steel (zinc plated) clamping band (see fig 1 and 2 below). In totality LLWR are only aware of six affected TC14 drums, and a single TC19 drum clamping ring out of over 10,000 drums manufactured.



Fig 1 – A clamping band with a failed spot weld (nut detached)



Fig.2 – close up of failed spot weld on nut showing reduced cross-sectional area of bonding

We are investigating an alternative method for fixing the nut to the ring that will be compliant with the existing licence and UN approval to minimise disruption to customers.

Once approved the new clamping bands will be manufactured as a priority and supplied to any Customers with TC14 and TC19 drum who wish to replace their current drum clamping bands. The new bands will be marked in such a way as to differentiate them from the old ones.

The new clamps will be fitted to any deliveries made after publication of this notice. LLWR will contact Customers to inform them of a revised drum delivery date as we anticipate a slight delay in drum lead time while additional new clamping bands are manufactured and distributed.

Recommendation to all TC14 & TC19 Drum Customers

Customers are advised to review whether they would like to replace the clamping band before consigning any future TC14 or TC19 drums.

Customers may like to consider the failure rate, whether the bands have been successfully torqued to 45Nm, and whether they are to be transported as an IP-2 package, or placed within an IP-2 container.

LLWR will provide new replacement clamping bands (with the additional welds) to all Customers wishing to replace their existing clamping bands.

Please inform LLWR Waste Management Services as soon as possible (via the Transport and Logistics inbox, or contact E. Dobbin 019467 70301) advising of the total number of rings required, if they are for any of the identified batches listed above, or for other previously delivered TC14 / TC19 drums.

Additional guidance:

Customers are advised to follow the TC14 and TC19 Packing and Handling Instructions (OM_3409278_MECH_00001_D and OM_3409278_MECH_00005_B respectively) in full paying particular attention to Section 7 - Pre-filling Checks, and 7.4.2 regarding examination of the clamp band.

In addition LLWR recommends consignors fully torque up the locking ring on both TC14 and TC19 drums during pre-filling checks to 45Nm to ensure the integrity of the locking ring assembly is demonstrated.

NOTE: The locking ring may show signs of discolourisation adjacent to the spot weld from oxidisation during the process. This discolourisation localised to this area is acceptable and is not deemed as corrosion in regard to clamp band pre-filling check for both TC14 and TC19 IP-2 Drums.

If any drums or clamping bands are found to be defective upon receipt inspection or during pre-filling checks, LLWR must be notified immediately by email transportandlogistics@llwrsite.com, and replacement components will be provided.

Further Information and Questions

If you require any further information regarding permitted contents or usage, please contact the Packaging Services Technical Team at transportandlogistics@llwrsite.com or call on 019467 70301.

Distribution List

We have issued this Notice to the following people from your Company's Contact Details Form (Reference: WSC-FOR-CON):

- All nominated representatives

If you need to update these details, please submit a revised Form: <http://llwrsite.com/waste-services/new-customers>