

SAFETY ALERT



Magnetic Stirrer Explosion - IKA Color Squid [Updated]

Incident Details

An **IKA Color Squid** stirrer caused an RCD circuit to trip. When power was re-introduced it exploded and ejected glass fragments up to 1 meter from the work area (*Figure 1*).

Information

In the days leading up to the incident a flammable solvent was spilled onto the stirrer. Although the stirrer was rated to prevent liquid ingress the solvent had seeped inside the stirrer, contacted the 240-volt terminals which lead to the explosion. It was also discovered that the manufacturer revised the design of the stirrer in 2010 following reports of RCD trips and a shattered glass cover caused by liquid ingress. This redesign included reducing the internal voltage of the stirrer to 12-volts via an external power pack. The stirrer involved in this incident was manufactured in 2009.

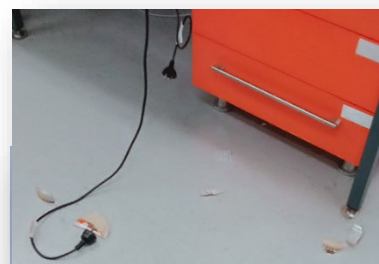
Key Messages

- All stirrers manufactured before 2010 must be permanently withdrawn from service (IKA colorsquid rated to 240 volts).
- These stirrers can be identified by **IKA® colorsquid** branding, and the following information on the equipment's identification sticker: **COLOR SQUID** and **240V** (*Figure 3*).
- Note that 12-volt stirrers can remain in service.

Who do you call with questions?

If you have any queries, please contact Health and Safety on 9266 4900 or email healthandsafety@curtin.edu.au.

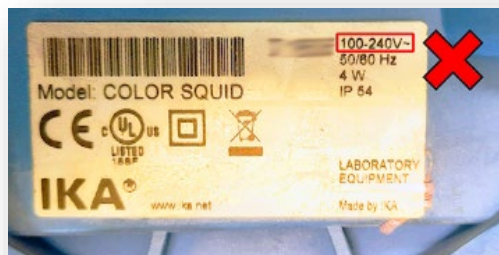
Date of Issue
15/11/2021



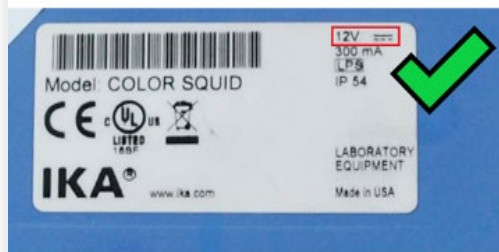
1. Glass fragments post-incident.



2. Examples of 'IKA Color Squid'



240V model: dispose.



12V model: retain.

3. Product information stickers showing 240V and 12V ratings.