

## Did You Know.....?

The Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) made it mandatory for all Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors that were produced after August 1, 2009 to have an “end-of-life” signal. CO detectors have a “typical” 3 to 5 year lifespan and this means that we will soon begin to hear these signals.

The end-of-life signal is an audible signal, differing from the alarm signal, indicating the device has reached the end of its useful life and should be replaced. The signal may be the same as the trouble or “low battery” signal, providing the device has a visual indicator to differentiate trouble and end-of-life signals. The signal may repeat once every 30-60 seconds.

### What to do if a CO alarm sounds

If a CO alarm in your home sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call your local emergency services, fire department or 9-1-1. DO NOT reenter the premises until the emergency services responders have given their permission.

If a CO alarm reactivates within a 24-hour period, press the reset button, call emergency services and move to fresh air. Call a qualified technician to examine and/or turn off fuel burning appliances or other sources of combustion. It's crucial that the source of the CO is determined and appropriate repairs are made.

Remember, an alarm indicates elevated levels of CO in your home. Some people can be exposed to dangerous levels of CO and not feel any symptoms. Regardless of whether or not symptoms of CO poisoning are present, never ignore the alarm.



**CO Detector with visual indicator**



**Combination CO Detector and Smoke Alarm**

For more information visit [www.ul.com](http://www.ul.com)

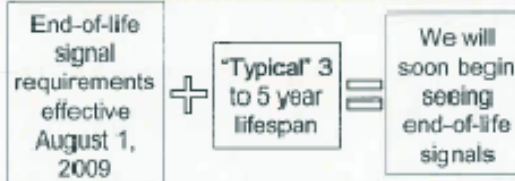
### History of UL 2034 Cont.

- Third Edition, dated February 28, 2008 contains requirement for end-of-life signal
- End-of-life determined by:
  - Self-diagnostic check
  - Internal timer
- New end-of-life requirements became mandatory for devices produced after August 1, 2009



4

### Problem Statement



How do we respond to calls from citizens?



5

### Three Types of Signals

1. **Alarm Signal** – An audible and visual signal intended to indicate presence of CO. Audible signal is 4 cycles of 100 millisecond "on", 100 millisecond "off" then 5 second "off". After 4 minutes, 5 sec "off" may be increased to 60 seconds. Signal continues until unit is manually silenced or CO dissipates. Visual indicator located on face of unit.



6

### Three Types of Signals Cont.

2. **Trouble Signal** – Visual and audible signal, differing from alarm signal, indicating fault or trouble condition. Audible signal is short beep, not more than 0.5 second, repeating once every 30 to 60 seconds. Signal continues until trouble condition is corrected.



7

### Three Types of Signals Cont.

3. **End-of-Life Signal** – Audible signal, differing from alarm signal, indicating device has reached the end of its useful life and should be replaced. Signal may be same as trouble signal, providing device has visual indicator to differentiate trouble and end-of-life signals. Signal shall repeat once every 30 to 60 seconds.



8

### Silencing End-of-Life Signal

- For units that generate signal from internal timer, timer can be reset for max 72 hours if self-diagnostic tests indicate devices meets requirements of standard. Timer can be reset for up to 30 days after initial end-of-life signal.
- For units employing self-diagnostic test, device can not be reset or silenced.



9