

Product Alert

Date: May 12, 2025

Counterfeit GL5651 Sprinklers (Colombia, Dubai)

Type of Notification: Counterfeit

FM Approvals has been notified of counterfeit GL5651 sprinklers found in Colombia bearing the FM Approvals mark. Counterfeit sprinklers similar in appearance were also reported in Dubai. FM Approvals has not certified or tested these sprinklers.

Company Identity: Manufacturer is unknown. “GLOBE” is marked on the sprinklers but were not manufactured by Globe Fire Sprinkler Corp. or Victaulic.

Product Identity: 1/2” NPT, glass bulb sprinklers with pendent-style deflectors, marked “GL5651”.

FM Approval Status: Not FM Approved

Hazard Involved: The products described in this product alert have never been tested or certified as FM Approved. Use of products that falsely claim FM Approval may present a property risk for the user. Failure modes of untested sprinklers may include (but are not limited to): failure to operate or delayed operation in response to fire, early or unexpected operation, orifice leakage, deflector detachment under flow, inadequate discharge volume, and inadequate distribution pattern.

If you suspect you are in possession of counterfeit GL5651 sprinklers bearing the FM Approvals certification marking or if you have any information relevant to these referenced products, please bring that to the attention of FM Approvals.

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The photographs below show the observable differences between one of the known counterfeit sprinklers found in Colombia and an authentic GL5651 sprinkler.

Figure 1 shows an authentic GL5651 sprinkler on the left and the counterfeit GL5651 on the right. The authentic sprinkler is from 2006, but the design has not significantly changed in appearance since. The counterfeit can be distinguished by the appearance of the tip of the loadscrew and the use of a 3 mm diameter bulb in the counterfeit. The year of manufacture is cast into the wrench flat, shown in the inset picture on the right. An authentic GL5651 from the year marked, 2024, would not also be marked “GLOBE” (Globe was purchased by Victaulic in 2019 and had discontinued the Globe marking by 2024). Any GL5651 from 2022 and later that is also marked “GLOBE” can be assumed counterfeit.

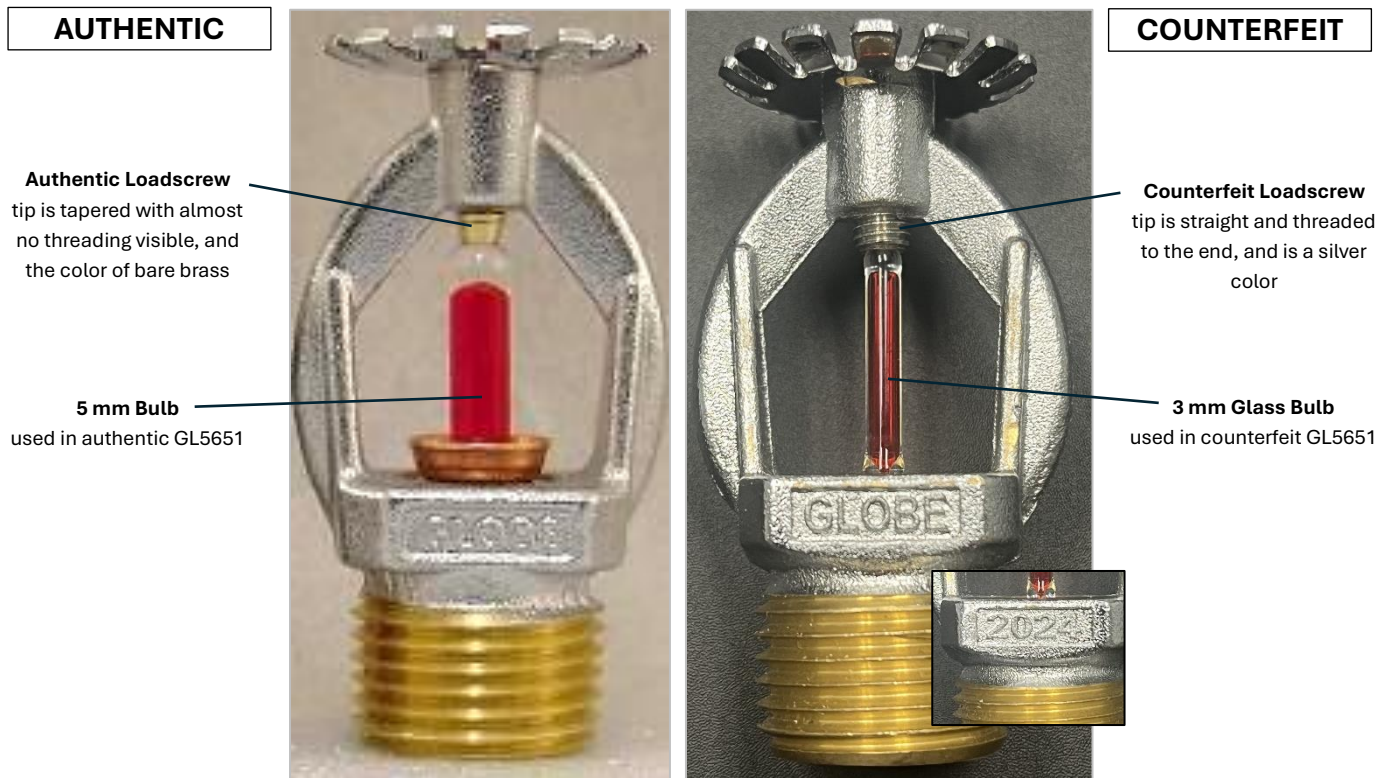


Figure 1. Photographs of an authentic GL5651 sprinkler (left) and a counterfeit GL5651 (right).

Figure 2 shows the deflectors of the authentic (left) and the counterfeit GL5651 (right). The authentic sprinkler is marked with the year of manufacture while the counterfeit is not. The counterfeit deflector is stamped with the LPC certification marking which is not one of the certifications of the authentic GL5651.



Figure 2. Photographs of the authentic GL5651 deflector (left) and the counterfeit GL5651 deflector (right).