**NEWS RELEASE**

**Gas Fireplace lawsuit settled**

**North Vancouver, BC - (April 13, 2015)** Miles Industries, manufacturer ofValor fireplaces for North America, announced today that it is one of three gas fireplace manufacturers that have reached a settlement in a class action lawsuit in BC Supreme Court in Vancouver. The other manufacturers are: Canadian Heating Products, Inc. (Montigo brand), Monessen Hearth Canada, Inc., and Monessen Hearth Systems Company (Vermont Castings, Majestic, Lexington Forge and DutchWest brands). While all parties have agreed to the settlement, the settlement remains subject to Court approval.

Miles Industries specializes in the design and manufacture of energy efficient natural gas and propane burning units for fireplace retrofit and home renovations. Their Valor brand products are sold exclusively through Canadian and American specialty fireplace retailers.

CEO Martin Miles says his company has always met or exceeded all recognized Canadian and U.S. standards, guidelines and industry practices. These include specific warnings that gas fireplace surfaces, including the glass fronts, become hot during operation and may cause burns if contacted.

The lawsuit involved the risk of burns from contacting the hot glass fronts of burning gas fireplaces. Under terms of the settlement, the manufacturers have agreed to provide barrier screens or screen kits, free of charge, for certain of their fireplaces to reduce the burn risk. The screens to be provided by Miles Industries under the settlement comply with a new CSA standard that went into effect on January 1, 2015. Miles Industries began shipping barrier screens as standard equipment in 2012.

The Settling Defendants do not admit any wrongdoing or liability. The settlement represents resolution of disputed claims. The parties agreed to resolve this case by settlement to avoid the years of time and expense associated with a trial.

Under the terms of the settlement, owners of Valor fireplaces manufactured by Miles Industries that were installed from January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2014, and which are not already equipped with a screen meeting the new CSA standard, are eligible to make a claim for a barrier screen. This does NOT include fireplaces manufactured by the previous manufacturer, Valor Heating Ltd, Birmingham UK.

“We actively worked with other manufacturers and stakeholders on developing a new North American-wide CSA safety standard, for gas fireplace barrier screens. We are proud of the role we played in initiating and developing the new standard,” says Miles.

Miles Industries has offered accessory barrier screen door systems on many models since 2004 and over 40% of Valor customers have either taken advantage of this option when they purchased their fireplace or received a standard barrier screen since then. Most of these screen doors are already compliant with the new standard. Since December 31, 2012, all Valor fireplaces have been shipped with a barrier screen as standard equipment.

Miles Industries has been in business since 1978 and began selling Valor products in 1982. In 2002, Miles Industries began designing and manufacturing all Valor-branded products for North America.

**For more information:**

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<http://www.hpba.org/safety-information/safefireplacetips>

[www.valorfireplaces.com](http://www.valorfireplaces.com)

For more information on the settlement <http://www.fireplaceclassaction.com/>