

Fire Safety Bulletin

Potential Hazard

A New York campus recently had two “close calls” involving a floor lamp similar to the one illustrated below. In both cases, heat from the bulbs caused the shades to melt. In one room, this caused a build-up a toxic fumes and the melted plastic from the shade burned a hole in the bedspread. The second incident involved a student who had turned on the lamp and, within 15 minutes, the shade melted and the heat began to turn a poster on the wall brown. Again - a very close call.

A concentrated search on that New York campus resulted in five additional lamps being found, each with at least some visible damage. Additionally, the Office of Fire Prevention and Control (OFPC) was made aware of similar occurrences at other campuses.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Environmental & Occupational Safety at (229)293-6171 or visit our website www.valdosta.edu/safety.

