If memory serves me correctly, the most commonly printed phrase in the English language is “Close Cover Before Striking. I recently happened to begin taking a closer look at the CCBS warnings and its variations at the bottom of just about all covers—and the more I looked, the more variations I found—and the more I found, the more interested I became—so now, of course, I have a small CCBS collection! Well, actually, I have a collection of “footers,” but what is shown here are just the footers with a safety message (stated or implied). I haven’t gone through every cover I own, but I’ve checked a goodly number, and here are the variations I’ve found so far. If you should happen to run across any not shown, please drop the Ed. a line and let me know.

Note: For this listing, I’ve drawn a rather fine line between what constitutes a CCBS variation and other footers. For example, you won’t see “DIAMOND QUALITY” or “EDDY QUALITY” listed here because they’re actually not part of the CCBS message, but I have included the “AMERICAN QUALITY” because it’s imbedded in the “FOR SAFETY CLOSE COVER” line. It’s all totally subjective, I admit, but it seemed the most logical way to approach this. Additionally, the “SAFETY FIRST” footer is included here because it, in itself, is part of the CCBS message.

Also note: I have not included CCBS errors here, although there are a small number of them—

1. ALWAYS STRIKE A MATCH AWAY FROM YOU
2. ALWAYS STRIKE A MATCH AWAY FROM YOU [star]
3. AVIS REFERMEZ LE LIVRET AVANT D’ALLUMER
   TENEZ LOIN DE LA PORTEE DES ENFANTS
   BE SAFE CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
   KEEP AWAY FROM CHILDREN
4. BE SAFE CLOSE COVER [91 union logo]
5. BE SAFE CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
6. BE SAFE - CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
7. BE SAFE - CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING [GAU union logo]
8. BE SAFE CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
9. BE SAFE [a/m logo] CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
10. BE SAFE [a/m circle logo] CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
11. BE SAFE [R/M logo] CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
12. BE SAFE CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
13. BE SAFE CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
14. BE SAFE [star] KEEP COVER CLOSED
15. Before Lighting Close Cover
16. BEFORE LIGHTING—CLOSE COVER
17. BEFORE LIGHTING — CLOSE COVER
18. cierre antes de encender
19. CIERRE LA CUBIERTA ANTES DE ENCENDER
20. CIERRE LA TAPA ANTES DE ENCENDER
21. CIERRESE ANTES DE ENCENDER
22. Cierrese antes de encender
23. CIERRESE ANTES DE FROTAR
24. Close Before Striking
25. CLOSE COVER
26. CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
27. CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING MATCH
28. Close Cover Before Striking Match
29. CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
30. CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING [union logo 385]
31. CLOSE COVER [star] BEFORE STRIKING
32. CLOSE COVER [union logo] BEFORE STRIKING
33. CLOSE COVER [30 B union logo 182 B] BEFORE STRIKING
34. CLOSE COVER [30 B union logo 182 B] BEFORE STRIKING [star]
35. CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING FERMEZ AVANT D’ALLUMER
36. CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING MATCH
37. Close Cover Before Striking Match
38. CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING MATCH
39. CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING, SMART ASS!
40. CLOSE COVER FOR SAFETY
41. Close Cover For Safety
42. CLOSE COVER [union logo] FOR SAFETY
43. Close Cover [union logo 61] For Safety
44. close cover / refermez s.v.p.
45. CLOSE COVER REFERFERMEZ S.V.P.
46. CLOSE COVER STRIKE MATCH ON BACK
47. CLOSE COVER - STRIKE ON BACK
48. CLOSE COVER STRIKE ON BACK
49. CLOSE COVER STRIKE ON BACK
50. CLOSE COVER [star] STRIKE ON BACK
51. FÉCHE ANTES DE RISCAR
52. FERMÉZ AVANT D’ALLUMER  CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
53. FOR AMERICAN CLOSE COVER

QUALITY
54. FOR SAFETY CLOSE COVER
55. FOR SAFETY CLOSE COVER
56. FOR SAFETY CLOSE COVER
57. FOR SAFETY - CLOSE COVER
58. FOR SAFETY — CLOSE COVER
59. FOR SAFETY CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
60. FOR SAFETY CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
61. FOR SAFETY [CM logo] CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
62. for CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING MATCH
63. FOR SAFETY STRIKE ON BACK
64. FOR SAFETY - STRIKE ON BACK*
65. FOR SAFETY [union logo] STRIKE ON BACK
66. FOR SAFETY [union logo] STRIKE ON BACK*
67. For Safety [union logo] Strike on Back
68. FRAPPEZ AU VERSO
69. KEEP AWAY FROM CHILDREN
70. PLEASE CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
71. Please close before striking
72. Please Close Cover Before Striking
73. *PLEASE CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING*
74. *PLEASE STRIKE ON BACK COVER*
75. REFERMEZ AVANT D’ALLUMER
76. Refermez avant d’allumer
77. REFERMEZ AVANT D’ALLUMER
78. REFERMEZ S.V.P.
79. REVERMEZ S.V.P.-CLOSE COVER
80. SAFETY FIRST CLOSE COVER
81. Safety First Close Cover
82. Safety First Close Cover
83. SAFETY FIRST CLOSE COVER
84. SAFETY FIRST CLOSE COVER
85. SAFETY FIRST - CLOSE COVER
86. Safety First - Close Cover
87. SAFETY FIRST—CLOSE COVER
88. Safety First—Close Cover
89. Safety First — Close Cover
90. Safety First - - Close Cover
91. SAFETY FIRST CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING MATCH

SAFETY FIRST
92. SLUIT VOOR TREK VAN VUURHOUTJIES
93. STRIKE MATCH ON BACK COVER
94. STRIKE ON BACK COVER
95. STRIKE ON BACK COVER
96. STRIKE ON THE BACK COVER
97. Strike On The Back Cover
98. TENIR HORS DE LA PORTEE DES ENFANTS
KEEP AWAY FROM CHILDREN
REFERMEZ S.V.P. CLOSE COVER

ADDITIONS:

- FERMEZ AVANT D'ALLUMER
- FERMEZ AVANT D'ALLUMER
  CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
- FERMEZ AVANT DE FROTTER
- FERMEZ L'ETUI AVANT D'ALLUMER
- FERMEZ L'ETI AVANT DE FROTTER
- FERMEZ LE CARNET AVANT-D'ALLUMER
- FERMEZ LE COUVERCLE AVANT DE FROTTER
- FERMEZ LE COUVERT
  AVANT D'ALLUMER
- FERMEZ LE COUVERT AVANT
  DE FROTTER L'ALLUMETTE
- FERMEZ LE COUVERT AVANT D'ALLUMER
- FERMEZ LE COUVERT AVANT D'ALLUMER
  CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING
- FERMEZ LA COUVERTURE AVANT D'ALLUMER
- FOR SAFETY, CLOSE COVER
- REFERMER AVANT D'ALLUMER
- Safety First Close Cover
- SAFETY FIRST STRIKE ON BACK