

MEDIA RELEASE

27 August 2014

Electrical cables recalled due to risk of fire or electric shock

Electrical retailers and wholesalers across Australia have today recalled Infinity brand electrical cables because of the risk they may cause fire or electric shock.

The recall relates to all sizes and configurations of TPS and Orange Round Infinity mains power cables. Olsent brand power cables sourced from Infinity Cable Co Pty Ltd are also included.

Testing has found the cable has poor quality insulation that will deteriorate prematurely and could cause fires or electric shock.

The cables were sold in Victoria between 2012 and 2013 through Masters Home Improvement, Home Timber & Hardware, Plants Plus, Thrifty-Link Hardware, Mitre 10, Go Electrical and six smaller Victorian retailers.

Victoria's Director of Energy Safety, Paul Fearon, said there was no immediate danger to Victorian householders but electricians who had used the cable would be in contact with affected customers.

Cable suppliers that are recalling the product are required to meet the cost of the rectification works.

Mr Fearon said all affected cable installed in accessible areas or near heat sources must be removed and replaced, while inaccessible cable could be left in the installation if that circuit was protected by a residual current device (safety switch). In those cases a warning label must be affixed to the switchboard.

Mr Fearon said anyone who had electrical work done in the past two years and was concerned about the recall should contact their electrician.

"No one should attempt to inspect electrical cables themselves," Mr Fearon said. "Contact your electrician or builder and they should be able to advise if the cable was used. The cable supplier will then arrange for it to be inspected and, if necessary, replaced or rectified."

Further information for consumers and electricians is available on the ESV website at www.esv.vic.gov.au or consumers with safety concerns can phone ESV on 1800 666 061.

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