

MEDIA RELEASE

Acting Commissioner for Consumer Affairs

19th March 2008

DANGEROUS DISHWASHERS THAT MAY CATCH FIRE

The Acting Commissioner of Consumer Affairs, Gary Clements, is warning consumers about the potential dangers involved with continuing to use certain Electrolux, Electrolux Dishlex and Westinghouse dishwashers.

“There have been 53 reported incidents across Australia involving these dishwashers. In some cases, fire has spread to kitchen benches and surrounds.”

A fault has been discovered with dishwashers purchased from these manufacturers since April 2007.

Mr Clements says “A fault with a wire connector within the dishwasher can cause plastic components to melt in the control panel which may result in the appliance catching fire.”

“Unfortunately, consumers don’t always pay attention to recall notices that appear in the newspaper, which can result in individuals continuing to use dangerous products.”

The manufacturer has issued two recall notices in relation to the dishwashers since December 2007, however, very few consumers have responded to the notices. Another recall will appear in newspapers this week.

The affected dishwasher models are:

Electrolux – models EX401ISB and ESL6163

Electrolux Dishlex – models DX303SK and DX303WK

Westinghouse – models SB908WK, SB908SK, SB916WK, SB916SK, SB926WK and SB926SK

In each case the serial number range is between 70700000 and 72400000.

Anyone who is currently using one of these dishwashers should immediately stop using it, disconnect it from the power and contact Electrolux on 1800 001 218 to arrange for repairs free of charge

**CONSUMER AFFAIRS MEDIA CONTACT: GARY CLEMENTS - 8935 7735/
0401 116 821**