



INFORMATION SHEET

BUILDING SERVICES

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RECALL OF INFINITY ELECTRICAL CABLE: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW?

The Australian Consumer and Competition Commission (ACCC) has issued a voluntary recall of electrical cable supplied by the Infinity Cable Company between 2010 and 2013 through a range of hardware suppliers in all states and territories apart from the Northern Territory.

What products are being recalled?

All 'INFINITY' and 'OLSENT' branded Infinity TPS (flat and flexible) and Orange Round low voltage electrical cables of all sizes, configurations and models that are polymeric insulated and PVC sheathed/insulated. The cable is labelled 'INFINITY' or 'OLSENT' at 1 metre intervals.

What is the defect & risk?

The cables fail the required ageing tests of AS/NZS 5000.2:2006. Tests have shown that the cable insulation may become prematurely brittle, which could cause fires or electric shock if the cables were then disturbed, such as by human or animal activity.

While the risk is not imminent, people need to be aware and take careful steps to manage the risk in coming years.

What does the recall mean?

The voluntary safety recall means that the suppliers of the cable have agreed to pay the costs of undertaking an inspection of any property where the builder or electrician believes the product has been used. A list of the outlets and dates of sale is available on the ACCC webpage.

If the inspection proves the cable is present, then rectification work will be undertaken as appropriate to the building:

- Where the cable is accessible it will be removed and replaced,
- Where the cable is close to a heat source, it will be removed and replaced,
- Where the cable is installed in appropriate conduit or is inaccessible, an electrical safety switch must be installed, and a warning sticker placed in the meter box.

The ACCC have advised that costs for any rectification work where defective cable is present will be covered by the supplier where they can be identified. Therefore it is important to ensure that you do not proceed with any inspection or rectification work without first contacting the supplier.

What should builders do?

It is recommended that builders make contact with your electrical contractors to determine whether they are aware of using these cables in any work they have undertaken for you.

If they confirm the cable has been used, then the supplier (hardware outlet) of the cable should be contacted to make arrangements in accordance with the recall procedure.

DISCLAIMER - The above is intended to provide general information in summary form. The contents do not constitute specific advice and should not be relied upon as such. Formal specific advice should be sought by members with respect to particular matters before taking action.

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If the electrician believes they may have used the product but is uncertain, the supplier can still be contacted. However if the cable is not found, the cost of an inspection will not be covered.

What should electricians do?

It is recommended electricians check their records of purchase during the recall period to determine whether the cable has been used.

If you believe the cable has been used, then you should contact the original supplier of the product (point of purchase) to make necessary arrangements for inspection and potential removal in accordance with the recall procedure.

For more information:

The ACCC have provided a range of information on the recall on their webpage:

To view the recall notice: <https://www.recalls.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/1061753>

ACCC FAQs: <https://www.accc.gov.au/update/infinity-cables-frequently-asked-questions#electrician-builders-and-suppliers>

HIA members who have concerns can contact:

- HIA's Building Services staff in relation to the technical details of the recall or
- HIA Workplace Services staff in relation to any legal questions that you may have

on 1300 650 620 or hia_technical@hia.com.au.