



MEDIA RELEASE

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Daylight savings acts as reminder to check smoke alarms

Exelgard, a leading distributor of fire products for the home, is recommending that homeowners take advantage of the clock change on Sunday October 4 and remember to also change their smoke alarm batteries.

Legislation across most of the country stipulates that homes must have at least one smoke alarm, ideally located where people sleep. If a home has more than one storey, there should be a smoke alarm on each level.

While 95 percent of homes across Australia are now equipped with smoke alarms¹, there is no point in having one unless it is working properly.

“The beginning of daylight savings is the ideal reminder for homeowners to replace their smoke alarm battery and check that the alarm is working by pushing the test button,” said Dwayne Kuipers, National Manager, Exelgard. “It is a quick and simple task which has the potential to save lives.”

A working smoke alarm will assist in providing the precious time needed to escape a fire. According to AAMI's 2008 Firescreen Index, two of the most common causes of fires in the home are cooking and faulty electrical appliances so consider where a photoelectric smoke alarm, best at detecting smoke from slow smouldering fires, might be more suitable than an ionisation alarm, which is better suited to fast flaming fires.

“Make sure you understand the difference between photoelectric and ionisation alarms and weigh up which will best address the likely causes of fire in your home,” said Kuipers. “Also think carefully about the positioning of smoke alarms so that they will have maximum impact if set off by a fire.”

Exelgard is the sole distributor of Wormald smoke alarms, which are available from Woolworths, K-mart, Big W and Australia Post.

¹ AAMI Firescreen – fire safety and awareness index, May 2008

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ABOUT EXELGARD

Exelgard is part of Tyco Fire & Security Australia/New Zealand – a division of Tyco International. Exelgard supplies resellers with a range of fire products including fire extinguishers, hose reels, cabinets, Storz fire fighting fittings, parts and accessories. Exelgard also provides a portfolio of domestic fire products such as fire blankets, fire extinguishers and smoke alarms. www.exelgard.com.au

ABOUT TYCO FIRE & SECURITY

Tyco Fire & Security, a major business segment of Tyco International Ltd., provides electronic security and fire protection solutions in more than 100 countries. With \$11 billion in annual sales and 90,000 employees, its products and services are used to safeguard firefighters, prevent fires, deter thieves and protect people and property. In Australia and New Zealand, Tyco employs more than 5,000 people, supplying products and services to leading businesses and households under the well-known brands of Wormald and ADT. For further information about our products and services please visit us at www.tycofireandsecurity.com.au.