



MEDIA RELEASE

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Stay safe this winter

Portable heaters, electric blankets and radiators are all potential fire hazards around the home as homeowners look to keep warm over the cold winter months.

Despite these dangers, many homes are not equipped to deal with a fire should one occur. According to recent research, only 34% of homes have a fire extinguisher and 22% a fire blanket¹.

“Fire extinguishers and blankets are essential for the home’s defence in the event of a fire. However, homeowners need to do more than just buy the product, they need to fully understand where the equipment should be located around the home, exactly how to use it and when it will need to be serviced or refilled,” says Peter Tarabaras, National Retail Manager, Exelgard.

A leading distributor of fire products in Australia, Exelgard recommends homeowners run through a mental checklist before leaving the house or going to bed.

- Ensure heaters are turned off on the appliance as well as at the wall
- Switch off electric blankets as soon as you get up
- Be mindful not to place clothes or towels near heaters or let curtains fall near them
- If using candles double-check they’ve been blown out
- Don’t leave matches and lighters lying around, store away safely

Exelgard’s domestic fire extinguishers and fire blankets offer comprehensive fire protection for the home. Exelgard’s website provides details on how homeowners should use the products to ensure maximum effectiveness.

¹ 2008 AAMI Firescreen Index

Exelgard is also the sole distributor of Wormald smoke alarms. Legislation across most of Australia requires homeowners install at least one smoke alarm. If a home has more than one storey, there should be a smoke alarm on each level.

Homeowners are advised to keep smoke alarms clean, test them regularly and replace batteries at least once a year.

Exelgard fire extinguishers and blankets and Wormald smoke alarms are available from major retailers or you can buy online at www.exelgard.com.au/shopping.

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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.