



# Victoria Government Gazette

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## Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Commonwealth)

### VICTORIA

Extension to Interim Ban Order: Small, separable or loose permanent magnetic objects,  
dated 23 August 2012

I, the Honourable Michael O'Brien, Minister for Consumer Affairs, pursuant to section 111(2) of Schedule 2 to the **Competition and Consumer Act 2010** of the Commonwealth, applied as a law of Victoria by Part 2.2 of the **Australian Consumer Law and Fair Trading Act 2012**, extend the interim ban order on small, separable or loose permanent magnetic objects issued in Victoria on 23 August 2012.

That order applied to the following consumer goods:

#### Particulars of Consumer Goods

Small, separable or loose permanent magnetic objects:

- (a) that are supplied as aggregated masses or in multiples of two or more; and
- (b) that are intended or marketed by the manufacturer primarily as a manipulative or construction desk toy or as jewellery; and
- (c) that have a magnetic flux index of greater than  $50 \text{ KG}^2\text{mm}^2$ ; and
- (d) where the product supplied contains more than one magnet that fits within the small parts cylinder specified in the International Standards Organization Toy Standard (ISO 8124-1:2009, Safety of Toys).

#### Hazard

Small, powerful magnets can detach and be ingested. The ingested magnets may then attract each other and clamp parts of the digestive system together resulting in death or serious injury.

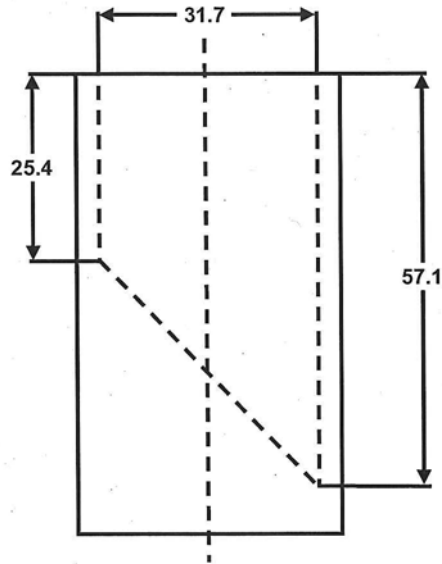
#### Interpretation

Measurement of the magnetic flux index ( $\text{KG}^2\text{mm}^2$ ) is calculated by multiplying the square of the maximum flux density ( $\text{KG}^2$ ) by the area of the pole surface of the magnet ( $\text{mm}^2$ ).

The small parts cylinder is a test apparatus taken from the Australian, International, and other national toy standards (for example, the International Standards Organization Toy Standard (ISO 8124-1:2009, Safety of Toys) designed to identify parts which are small enough to pose an ingestion or inhalation hazard to children.

**SPECIAL**

The test apparatus was developed on the basis of incidents of ingestion. It is well established, has been in these various standards for over 40 years (since toy standards were first developed), and is a measure well known and understood by industry. Measurements in the figure below are in mm.



The ban does not apply to magnets supplied:

- as parts for manufacture into other goods or for the repair of other goods;
- for scientific research; or
- as industrial, medical, or therapeutic goods.

The effect of this Notice is to extend the interim ban order on small, separable or loose permanent magnetic objects issued in Victoria on 23 August 2012 for a period of 30 days. This Notice commences with immediate effect on 23 October 2012.

Dated 18 October 2012

HON. MICHAEL O'BRIEN MP  
Minister for Consumer Affairs

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