



BLIND MANUFACTURERS'
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Media Release

February 2014

BLIND MANUFACTURERS ENCOURAGE PARENTS TO BE DILIGENT WITH CHILD SAFETY

The Blind Manufacturers' Association of Australia (BMAA), the peak industry association that represents the manufacturers of blinds, awnings and shutters, has launched a campaign to raise awareness of the potential dangers associated with blind cords in and around the home.

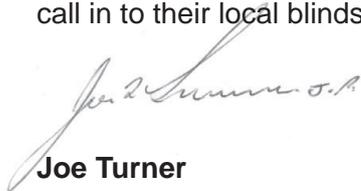
All blinds, curtains and fittings must comply with the mandatory standard set out by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) to reduce the incidence of, and potential for death and injuries to young children. This includes the need for a warning label on retail packaging, a warning label on the corded product, installation instructions, and more.

The BMAA is working to educate manufacturers, suppliers, and parents across Australia about these standards, and the many ways to minimise risk around the home when buying, installing and using blinds. According to BMAA's Child Safety Representative, Tony Politis, even though blinds with cords can comply with the mandatory standard, parents should still be diligent.

"Despite the height of loose cords, once parents change the environment, by putting furniture or the baby's cot within arm's reach, the safety of their child is compromised," he said.

According to Tony, there are several precautions parents can take to ensure their child's safety. "First and foremost, parents should check all blinds and tie or fix any loose cords securely out of child's reach. Safety devices, such as cleats, are readily available at most Hardware stores and can be purchased at little cost from any blinds supplier. Additionally, parents can choose cordless blinds, which are motorised or battery operated," he said.

Child safety brochures and a safety checklist, developed by the ACCC can be located at online at www.bmaa.net.au/consumer-information. Parents are advised to read the safety procedures diligently, or to call in to their local blinds or curtains dealer for advice.



Joe Turner
President
Blind Manufacturers Association of Australia

ABOUT THE BLIND MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

The Blind Manufacturers' Association of Australia (BMAA) is the peak industry association which represents the manufacturers of blinds, awnings and shutters as well as component suppliers. The BMAA has provided over 60 years of service, and aims to promote and strengthen the industry and to inform and represent its members. BMAA is governed by an eight person Board who are bound by a code of ethics and who meet regularly to discuss industry issues.



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For any further information

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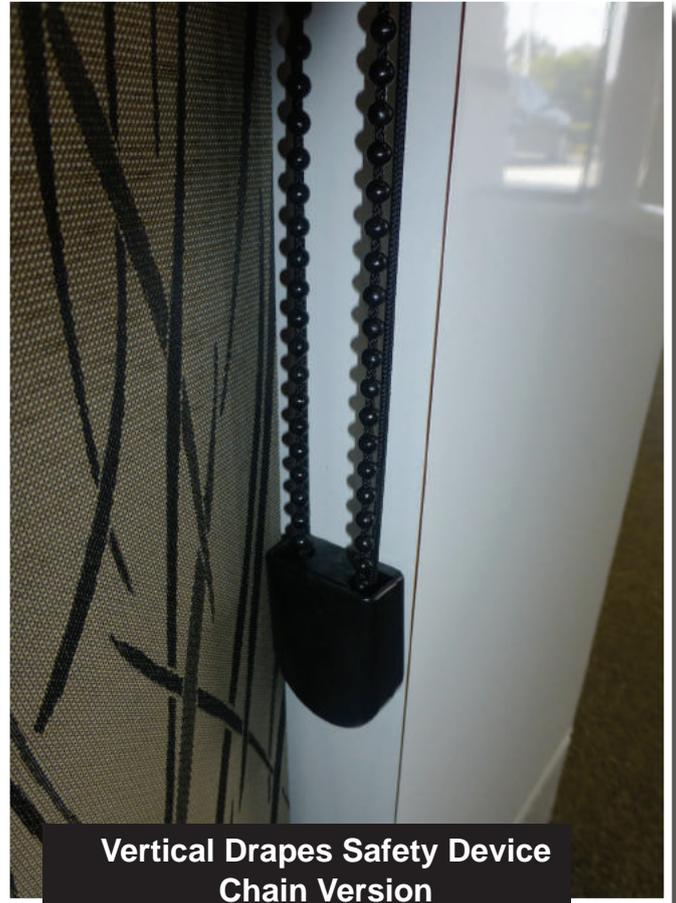
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**Duo Safety Device For Roller Blinds
Chain Version**



**Vertical Drapes Safety Device
Chain Version**



**Safety Cleat For Cord Operated
Roman Blinds**