

# SAFETY WATCH AUSTRALIA

Smoke Alarm Safety Switch Pool Barrier Corded Window



## Corded Window Furnishings \$110.00

### Definitions

*In the Regulations:*

**cleat** means a device that has a bar with arms around which a cord can be wound, and that can be attached to a wall or other structure.

**cord** means a rope, strap, string, chain, line or wire used to manipulate a corded internal window covering.

**corded internal window covering** means:  
(a) a window covering, such as a curtain or blind; or  
(b) fittings used with a window covering, such as a traverse rod or track.

### Scope of the Industry Laws

“duty of care, sound risk management and best practice, all blinds and curtains in rented properties should be inspected and any defects reported to the landlord for fixing”

- Australian homes often feature blinds, curtains and other window coverings that have cords and using the cords, a person can raise, lower, open, or close the blinds or curtains.
- Blind and curtain cords can present a strangulation hazard to children, as they may become entangled in them while trying to use, play with or play around window coverings. Even with raised coverings, children can climb onto window sills or furniture and access the cords. Cords can also strangle infants sleeping or playing in cots placed near windows where cords are within reach or hanging into cots.
- In recent years, the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (“ACCC”) recognised the major hazard of risk of strangulation of young children with loop cord systems. As a result, Mandatory Standards known as **The Trade Practices (Consumer Product Safety Standard – Corded Internal Window Coverings) Regulations 2010** (“The Trade Practices Mandatory Safety Standards”) now regulate the design, construction, installation and labelling of corded window furnishings.
- **From 1 July 2011 all premises (residential and commercial) which are leased/rented by their owners must comply with The Trade Practices Mandatory Safety Standards** in relation to any corded window covering including (but not limited to) Vertical, Venetian, Holland and Roman Blinds, and Curtains (including pencil pleat “ready made” and pencil pleat tape) and any fitting containing cords, such as Curtain Rods and Tracks.

*“Although the Regulations only apply to corded curtains and blinds installed after 1st July, 2011, effectively the intent of the regulations applies to all existing corded curtains and blinds as well, by virtue of Section 185 of the RTRA Act, ..... the onus on Owners and Agents to ensure their rental property is safe and fit to live in”.*

**Who is affected?** Australian businesses involved in the supply of window coverings [importers, distributors, retailers, and installers], consumers and government are affected. In the context of blind and curtain installations, consumers are any person or business that owns, rents or leases a residential or commercial property.



### DON'T RISK LIVES: INSURANCE POLICIES DON'T COVER YOU FOR NEGLIGENCE

Insurance policies do vary, however most have an exclusion clause that means that the insurance company may not have to pay out where the Owner breaks the law or has been advised that there is an issue and elects not to act to rectify the issue or harm. The question of legal liability aside, who would willing want to risk the life of a child and subsequent knowledge that a death or tragedy could have been avoided if prior action was taken by simply addressing the issue.

Contact **Safety Watch Australia** on **3890 7286** or email [info@safetywatch.com.au](mailto:info@safetywatch.com.au) to discuss this added service to assist with your Risk Management today.

## Safety Watch Australia : Risk Managers for Life

To engage Safety Watch Australia to provide Corded Window Furnishings compliance, please indicate your acceptance of the **Corded Window PLAN** by ticking the box below, signing the authorisation and returning the form to your property manager.

**Whilst at the property, SWA will complete:**

1. Inspect each window furnishing for compliance with current standards. 2. Where required for compliance, move existing or install for FREE cleats, chain safes and warning labels. 3. Make recommendations for a window furnishing that is unable to be rectified on site for compliance 4. Safety information statement installed in property. 5. Provide a compliance certificate.

**Single Visit: Corded Window Inspection \$110.00**

Choose either a single visit or the annual plan

**Annual Plan: Corded Window Inspection \$110.00**

This plan provides initial inspection and will then continue annually at discounted rate of \$99.00 incl gst

- **Landlords declaration:** I/We authorise SWA to supply Risk Management Services for Corded Window Furnishings under the terms of the plan indicated above to my rental property/s on an ongoing basis at my own expense. I do understand that if the property has window furnishings that are unable to be made compliant whilst on site, SWA will provide a full written report including a quote under the heading **"Recommendations"** explaining what is required to be rectified to ensure the property is made compliant. I do understand that that it is my responsibility to ensure the property manager is provided with proper instructions to rectify any non compliance.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Landlord Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Real Estate Agency Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Suburb

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Post Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

**Safety Watch Australia : Risk Managers for Life**

SWA information DVD can be viewed at: <http://www.safetywatch.com.au/aboutus.asp>



Safety Watch Australia Pty Ltd

[info@safetywatch.com.au](mailto:info@safetywatch.com.au)

[www.safetywatch.com.au](http://www.safetywatch.com.au)

Ph: 3890 7286 Fax: 3395 8615

Trust in the experts that industry experts trust

*Working Together*

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