



STATEMENT ON NIGHTWEAR PRODUCTS

Tuesday 30 March 2010: BIG W notes the statement released by the ACCC today in respect to children's nightwear products.

Late last year, as part of its regular product safety survey process, the ACCC advised the labelling on a number of BIG W children's nightwear garments did not comply with the mandatory product safety standard for children's nightwear.

BIG W promptly initiated an internal review resulting in the voluntary recall of 35 products. No injuries have been reported as a result of the nightwear products.

Director of BIG W, Julie Coates said: "We should have detected the garments supplied to us did not comply with the mandatory product safety standard. We have had an independent expert review our quality assurance procedures and we are taking necessary steps to ensure this doesn't happen again."

"We responded swiftly and fully to this issue and we continue to work closely with our vendors to ensure the children's nightwear we sell meets legal requirements.

"BIG W takes compliance and the safety of its customers very seriously and sincerely apologises for any inconvenience caused to customers," Ms Coates said.

In resolving this matter with the ACCC, BIG W sought a constructive outcome where learnings could be shared across the retail industry. Accordingly, BIG W will provide \$200,000 in funding towards a research project into the Product Safety Standard for Children's Nightwear.

"This will be of benefit both to consumers and the industry as it will help provide clarity on aspects of the standard which have been identified as requiring further precision," Ms Coates said.

– Ends –

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