

MEDIA RELEASE
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Alspec and Kidsafe Australia join forces to close the gap on window safety

Alspec and Kidsafe Australia sign three year partnership

Window fall prevention experts, Alspec, and Kidsafe Australia have united to address serious concerns regarding the implementation of new building regulations that have the potential to leave young children dangerously at risk.

Approximately 50 children each year suffer serious, and sometimes fatal, injuries as a result of falling from a balcony or window.¹ New window safety device requirements introduced in New South Wales in March 2018 aim to prevent such accidents, however, a gap between the regulation and its practical application means some families may falsely believe they are protected.

“Alspec completely supports the new regulations, but our concern is that the full information on the correct installation and testing requirements for these window safety products is not readily available,” says Barry Lunn, Alspec Sales & Marketing Director.

“In particular, strata managers and property owners who follow the general guidance to install window safety devices, and ignore or aren't aware of the requirements for testing, cannot guarantee that windows will meet the new standard and keep residents safe,” says Mr. Lunn.

Alspec and Kidsafe Australia have signed a three year partnership to educate families about how they can make the windows in their home safer to protect children from preventable injuries.

“With a growing number of Australian families now living in high rise or multi-story dwellings, window falls are something that's becoming increasingly top of mind for many parents,” says Christine Erskine from Kidsafe Australia.

“In order to ensure children are protected, families need to make sure their windows are secured with the correct devices that are tested to meet required safety standard. Our partnership with Alspec aims to educate Australians on the steps they need to take to better protect their children in the home,” adds Ms Erskine.

¹ NSW Government Fair Trading

Homeowners looking to meet the new standard should firstly check that the solution they have chosen has been certified as compliant with AS5203. In the case of Strata properties, it is recommended that the device should also be installed by a certified professional.

Residents concerned about whether the window safety devices in their building meet the required standard should contact their Strata Manager for assistance. Alternatively, visit the Alspec or Kidsafe website or call Alspec on 1300 247 732 for further information.

“Window safety is a critical part of creating safe spaces for our children to live and grow in. This is why [Alspec](#) and [Kidsafe](#) are committed to raising awareness of this important issue, and providing solutions to prevent families from ever having to experience the trauma of losing or seeing a child seriously injured,” explains Mr Lunn, from Alspec.

Alspec and Kidsafe Australia are attending the upcoming *Pregnancy Babies & Children's Expo* at Sydney Showground Exhibition Centre, Sydney Olympic Park from 18-20 May where both teams will be on hand to advise families about the implications of the recent legislation, and how they can better protect their own windows.

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For further information about the partnership or to speak with Barry Lunn (Alspec) or Christine Erskine (Kidsafe) please contact:

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About Alspec

Established in 1974, Alspec® are the market leaders in the design and distribution of innovative aluminium systems to the architectural, residential, industrial and home improvement markets. Our range of quality, tested products together with our professional and personal service ensures we are uniquely positioned to support the growth of your business. With a national network of over 500 staff and eleven locations, Alspec® is a wholly Australian-owned private company at the forefront of the Australian Aluminium Systems market.

About Kidsafe Australia

Kidsafe was first established in 1979 as the Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Australia (CAPFA) and there is a Kidsafe Office in each State and Territory. The name Kidsafe was adopted nationally in 1993 and the organisation's mission is to '*make a safer world for kids*' through targeted child injury prevention campaigns. Kidsafe focuses on safety in and around the home and on the road as well as promoting safe, creative places to play.