

Sunday 27th January 2008

FAULTY COT PROMPTS PARENTAL WARNING

Minister for Consumer Affairs, Jennifer Rankine, is urging parents, grandparents and guardians who've purchased certain models of the "Childcare" brand cot to conduct some basic tests following the identification of a safety issue where one parent reported the drop-side panel collapsing.

Minister Rankine said, "I was obviously disturbed to learn of the accident and fortunately the infant concerned wasn't hurt, but when the side panel collapsed the filler bars could have fallen out and presented a real risk of the child either rolling out or being injured by the exposed bars."

Product safety inspectors from the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA) found evidence suggesting that inadequate amounts of glue had been used where the filler bars were placed.

The Childcare brand cot is made by Childcare Nursery Products and has been sold at Target stores.

"I'd urge anyone who may be anxious about the safety features of their own cot to carry out a basic "shaking" test to ensure their cot is sturdy and strong which should also provide peace of mind," Ms Rankine said.

Three models of Childcare cots that have been sold since September 2005 are affected:

- Harbour Cot: 091130-003 and 091130L-003 and 091130-010 and 091130L-010
- Stirling Cot: 091120L-003
- Kimberley Cot: 091110-003 and 091110L-003

Model details can be found on the slats under the mattress base.

Note: The Harbour XT and Stirling XT cot models are not affected by this recall.

"Babies spend a great deal of time sleeping in their cots, therefore it's imperative that their sleeping environment is as safe as possible," Ms Rankine said.

Parents can contact Childcare Nursery Products to arrange for either a replacement drop-side or a repair to the affected part. Phone **1800 500 606**.

For further information about this product recall contact OCBA's Product Safety section on 8152 0732 or visit www.recalls.gov.au