

Tuesday 1 July 2008

NEW SAFETY STANDARDS FOR PRAMS AND STROLLERS SET IN MOTION

A mandatory safety standard for prams and strollers is commencing nationally today.

Minister for Consumer Affairs, Jennifer Rankine said “The standard will ensure that prams and strollers meet safety requirements in terms of their design and construction, and highlight to parents and carers that it is crucial to remain in control of the pram at all times.”

A number of incidents have been reported across Australia of prams tipping over or rolling away, with many of these resulting in injuries to children; and on two separate occasions prams have rolled into the River Torrens resulting in the deaths of two children.

The mandatory standard sets safety requirements relating to **construction, performance and labelling** and will include:

- **A compulsory requirement for prams and strollers to have a tether strap that can be placed around the wrist to avoid the risk of runaway prams.**
- **Brake activators must be clearly marked in red.**

“It’s one thing to provide brakes and safety mechanisms, but if people don’t use them, that’s where the potential arises for things to go wrong, which could result in injury or even death,” Ms Rankine said.