

Safety Alert for Dangerous Lunar New Year decorative lightings

CELEBRATE WITH A PEACE OF MIND – WITH PRODUCTS BEARING THE SAFETY MARK



Post market surveillance effort by SPRING Singapore in the period leading to the festive season last year detected a number of dangerous decorative lightings (pictured left) retailing at about \$20, in some supermarkets and neighborhood retail outlets and supermarkets. These Lunar New Year decorative lightings do not bear the



Visual inspection showed that besides the price tag, the decorative lightings do not have any manufacturer's name or trademark, electrical rating or safety instructions for consumer. The wirings on the decorative lighting are found to be undersized: too thin. SPRING then commissioned an independent testing laboratory to conduct the product safety test.

The test revealed that the decorative lighting failed to meet the international product safety standard IEC 60598-2-20 (particular safety requirements for lightings chains). One of the safety risks is that there is inadequate cord anchorage on the control box. An adequate cord anchorage will prevent stress to the electrical connections when the mains cord is subject to pull action.

In the pull test conducted, the cord broke off from the control box exposing live wires. This is likely to cause electrocution to consumers. The test also revealed that the wires used were undersized and the power drawn by the decorative lightings exceeded the permissible limit. These two failures would likely lead to overloading and may start a fire.

As a result of the post market surveillance, two retailer outlets were fined \$2, 000 each.

We would like to take this opportunity to share the following messages:

For Suppliers:

Suppliers are to ensure that decorative lightings are to meet IEC 60598-2-20. They are to obtain evidence that the decorative lightings have met the required safety standard and to register with SPRING Singapore, the Safety Authority. They should therefore, as early as possible, specify this safety requirement to the manufacturers to ensure that the decorative lightings are designed and manufactured to meet the safety standard in time for the next Lunar New Year sale.

For Consumers:

As the Lunar New Year decorative lightings are unsafe, consumers are advised to return the decorative lightings to the retail outlets where they purchased from or to discard the decorative lightings.



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Always insist on the SAFETY Mark

SPRING Singapore would like to take the opportunity to remind all consumers to look for the SAFETY Mark when buying Controlled Goods. For details on Controlled Goods, please log on to www.spring.gov.sg/safety.

For more information, please contact SPRING Singapore at 1800-7733163 or email to safety@spring.gov.sg