

Media Release

26 July 2017

Independent Testing Confirms ALDI Spiral Spring Mixer Tap Is Safe For Use

ALDI Australia is pleased to confirm that the Spiral Spring Mixer Tap, sold as a Special Buy on 10 June 2017 has passed additional testing against AS/NZS 4020:2005, which is required for the Australian WaterMark certification and is the testing method under the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. The additional test was conducted by a laboratory accredited by the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) for this Standard, meaning that the product is safe for use. This result is consistent with previous independent testing, which was conducted prior to sale.

As expressed in a message published to ALDI's customers via the ALDI Facebook page:

"At ALDI, we are committed to providing our customers with safe products of the highest quality. For this reason, I was alarmed by the claims suggesting that the Spiral Spring Mixer Tap, sold as a Special Buy on 10th June this year, may contaminate drinking water. I can assure you that as soon as this matter was brought to ALDI's attention, we initiated a priority investigation. Our teams have worked tirelessly with authorities and independent testing laboratories to confirm that the tests conducted prior to sale were accurate, and the product is safe," said Tom Daunt, CEO of ALDI Australia.

"We are disappointed that so many ALDI customers were provided information that generated such unnecessary concern and inconvenience. The Queensland Building and Construction Commission's prematurely published statements were based on tests that were not conducted in accordance with the Australian Standard." Mr. Daunt said.

For further information please visit the ALDI Australia <u>Facebook page</u> to view the video statement from Tom Daunt.

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Appendix: Transcript of the ALDI Australia's Facebook video:

Hi, I'm Tom Daunt, the CEO of ALDI Australia and I'm here with my colleagues at our Customer Service Department in Minchinbury, NSW.

At ALDI, we're absolutely committed to providing our customers with safe products of the highest quality. That's why I was alarmed to read various media publications recently suggesting that the Spiral Spring Mixer Tap, a product we sold as a Special Buy on the10th June this year, may contaminate drinking water with higher-than-safe levels of lead.

All of ALDI's products undergo independent and rigorous testing prior to being sold in



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our stores and this product was no exception. I can assure you, however, that as soon as these reports were brought to our attention, we initiated a top priority investigation in cooperation with authorities and independent testing laboratories, to verify that the tests conducted prior to sale were accurate and the product is safe.

I am pleased to announce that we have just received confirmation from independent, accredited and certified testing laboratories, that the Spiral Spring Mixer Tap meets all Australia /New Zealand 4020 tests for WaterMark certification. In plain English, this means that the product is completely safe for use.

I appreciate that the kitchen tap is an integral part of the home and not something that can easily be avoided. So, I completely understand the concern that these media reports have caused for many of you.

The media reports themselves were based on information from the Queensland Building and Construction Commission. The QBCC published statements about the safety of the tap based on tests they had carried out that were not conducted in accordance with the Australian Standard and were not conducted by an appropriately accredited laboratory.

I'm disappointed that so many of our customers were provided with information that generated such unnecessary concern and inconvenience.

I have great respect for the dozens of independent and certified testing facilities around Australia that partner with ALDI, to ensure that only the safest products reach our shelves.

I'm pleased that this issue has now been addressed and I sincerely hope that ALDI's thorough investigation of this matter provides you with further confidence in the quality of our products and our processes.