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## MEDIA RELEASE

### LOEWE TELEVISION SET FIRE SAFETY RECALL

The South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) is urging all owners of Loewe television sets purchased since April 1999 to contact the manufacturer or their original supplier to check whether the model they own is subject to a recall notice.

This follows yet another fire in a home involving a Loewe TV. Some Loewe models have been identified as potentially being defective at certain soldered joints that may lead to overheating with a subsequent risk of **fire**.

"In the most recent fire, the owner was in the same room as the TV which was on. He heard a "pop" and saw the TV picture had gone, on further investigation he smelt smoke, went to bedroom to get the fire extinguisher and returned to find smoke pouring out of the unit." said District Officer Allan Foster of the Community Safety Department.

D/O Foster recommends the following actions listed in the recall notice issued by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC):

- disconnect the TV immediately from the power socket,
- identify if your set requires inspection; and
- arrange with Loewe for your free in home inspection and precautionary modification if required.

To determine if your set is affected see <http://www.loewetv.com.au> or call Loewe's 24 hour Inspection Identification Hotline on Freecall 1800 661 922.

"The ACCC monitors voluntary recalls such as this and advise that traditionally there is only a 25% return rate for recalled appliances. This increases the potential fire risk for many families," said D/O Foster.

"This is also a timely reminder to ensure that smoke alarms which give the best escape from house fires are in good working order; tested monthly, cleaned at least six monthly and new back up batteries installed at the end of daylight saving." said D/O Foster.

More information on home fire safety can be accessed on the MFS website at <http://www.mfs.sa.gov.au/community/domestic.asp>.

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