



**APA Manufacturing Pty Ltd**  
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4 April 2007

Dear Sir

### **Recall of Axiom hand taps**

We have become aware of a potential problem with the Axiom hand taps used in relation to LPG automotive tanks manufactured by APA Manufacturing Pty Ltd between 1 November 2006 and 28 February 2007 (“the Axiom hand taps”).

Each Axiom hand tap uses two o’rings to implement a measure of redundancy. Both must fail for there to be any leakage. Our investigation has revealed that some o’rings fitted to the hand tap spindle were undersized. Further investigation by the supplier of the assembly has identified the undersize o’rings were included in deliveries of batches of o’rings. We have not been able to determine how many undersize o’rings were in the affected batches.

The hand tap is initially sealed even if both o’rings are defective because o’ring grease is used to aid the assembly of the o’ring to the spindle. Each unit was tested by APA Manufacturing Pty Ltd prior to dispatch. The units on each occasion passed that test. Over time the grease dissipates into the LPG and if two undersize o’rings had been fitted then a leak could then develop. There have been reports of this occurring.

APA LPG cylinders fitted with either an XS4 or SR1 type service valve with a manufacture date from and including November 2006 to and including February 2007 and labelled “Axiom” may be affected.

APA Manufacturing Pty Ltd has made the decision to recall these items to avoid any risk or injury to any person, however remote that risk might be, despite the fact that we were not at fault - the Axiom hand taps were supplied as sealed units and passed appropriate testing. This is both a moral stand and one that is expected by Part V of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (C’th).

As you will appreciate, you hold the records of customers and we therefore need your help to notify the owners. At this time, we do not ask you to disclose details of all your customers. Instead, we ask that you send the relevant letter on our behalf to those customers. To help you do so, we enclose a number of pre-paid envelopes containing the relevant letter to the customers and a sheet of instructions to the owners that merely need to be addressed and sent to the owners. Please keep records of the name and

address of each person to whom this notice has been sent.

We enclose a recall kit. This contains:

- (a) a sheet that sets out how to identify the recalled Axiom hand taps;
- (b) a sheet that contains retrofit instructions;
- (c) a copy of the letter and instructions to be set to the owners;
- (d) a summary of the recall program;
- (e) sheets to record applicable details; and
- (f) a prepaid envelope to return replaced taps and the relevant information sheets to us,

together with your tax invoice in respect of the replacement of the hand taps. APA Manufacturing Pty Ltd will meet \$40.00 installation cost (GST inc.) and \$10.00 LPG (GST inc.).

Naturally, you should immediately return any affected stock still in your possession.

**You must action this immediately.** We appreciate that there are many demands placed on your time, but this issue does need your urgent attention to ensure that people cannot be hurt and to avoid any risk that delay may lead to personal legal liability for you.

Please contact Neill Edwards tel (03) 9720 2855 if you have any questions regarding this issue.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Chapman  
Chief Executive Officer