

MEDIA RELEASE

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TO: ALL NEWS EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS

NRCS orders for a national recall of the Double Ace white cement manufactured in Singapore

The National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS) recently enforced sanctions and ordered for the stoppage of the sale of non-compliant Double Ace white cement imported into the country from Singapore.

The product (Double Ace White Cement) imported by a Gauteng based company was found to have contravened the requirements of the compulsory specification for the manufacture, import, marking properties and the performance of cement (VC 9085:2007), and therefore the Regulator calls for its nation-wide recall.

The importer did not apply for pre-approval of the cement with the Regulator before import and therefore does not have the authority to import cement into South Africa. This is part of the minimum safety requirements as outlined in the compulsory specification. The company also failed to produce a valid permit from an appointed accredited certification body which is another requirement enlisted in the compulsory specification. Furthermore, the product packaging markings do not meet the requirements.

Although the product has been detained in Gauteng, it is possible that it may be available elsewhere in the country. The performance of this product cannot be ascertained and further investigations are underway.

The removal of this product from the market is in line with section 20 (1) (b) of the NRCS Act. No. 5 of 2008 which stipulates that “any person who imports or sell a commodity or product – for which a compulsory specification is in force must furnish to the national Regulator such information as may be specified with regard to the article concerned”.

The Regulator would like to call on all hardware stores selling this product to make urgent contact with the NRCS and stop the sale with immediate effect. Consumers are also urged to look out for the LOA number printed in each bag of cement sold before transacting.

Enquiries regarding the recall of the cement should be sent to the following email address: cmmapproval@nrcs.org.za.

For media interviews, please contact Mirriam Moswaane on 012 482 8626 or 083 364 2007.

ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL REGULATOR FOR COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS (NRCS).