

**ATTACHMENT B: NOTICE FOR WHOLESALERS TO PLUMBERS, BUILDING PROFESSIONALS
AND TRADESPEOPLE**



BUILDING CONFIDENCE

VICTORIAN BUILDING AUTHORITY

ALERT / WARNING

DANGERS OF DO-IT-YOURSELF DOUCHE SPRAYS, BIDETS & HANDHELD HOSES

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) is aware of an increase in DIY installations of douche sprays, bidets and handheld hoses in domestic toilets and bathrooms.

The VBA is concerned about the health risks posed by these types of installations, as they have the potential to cause sewage to contaminate the drinking water supply through backflow or back-siphonage.

The installation of a douche spray, bidet or handheld spray adjacent to a toilet is regulated plumbing work and must be carried out by a plumber registered or licensed in the class of Water Supply.

These installations must comply with the relevant plumbing regulations and standards.

- All water points installed adjacent to a water closet (toilet) not directly connected to a sanitary fixture for flushing purposes only must be protected by a high-hazard backflow-prevention device.
- Douche sprays or handheld hoses that can be placed in a toilet bowl are also non-compliant unless protected by a high-hazard backflow-prevention device.
- All douche sprays or bidet seats must be WaterMark-certified and installed in accordance with plumbing regulations, standards and the manufacturer's installation instructions.

There is a high risk of sewage contaminating the drinking water supply if the installation is non-compliant or no high-hazard backflow-device is installed.

Further information

- *Plumbing Regulations 2018*
- *Plumbing Code of Australia 2019*
- AS/NZS 3500.1: Plumbing and drainage Part 1: Water services
- VBA fact sheet:
https://www.vba.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/98445/PlumbingFactSheet-Handheld-sprays-and-water-points-adjacent-to-water-closets.pdf
- Contact the Plumbing Technical Enquiries team at the VBA by sending an email to plumbingtechnicaladvice@vba.vic.gov.au.