

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HOME INSULATION PROGRAM (HIP)

Foil Insulation

A Q&A to help you understand the facts

Has foil insulation been suspended from the HIP?

The Department of the Environment announced on 9 February 2010 that all foil insulation materials were suspended from the HIP scheme pending consultations with the industry. AIR-CELL® Insulation falls into the foil insulation category of products.

Why have there been electrocutions?

The tragic incidents in the HIP program have been related to poor installation practices rather than product-related factors. On two occasions where foil insulation was used, initial findings were that the installer penetrated live cabling with metal staples. Metal staples have been banned under the program since November 2009.

Are AIR-CELL® products safe to use?

Absolutely, AIR-CELL® products are safe to use and are the only foil insulation products that are CodeMark-certified to the building codes and AS/NZS 4859.1. AIR-CELL® products have been used safely for almost 13 years.



For some retrofit situations, there are Occupational Health & Safety aspects that the installer needs to adhere to in relation to working around electrical wiring and appropriate clearances around downlights, but any well-trained installer would be aware of these guidelines. From February 12, all individual installers must be individually trained in safe installation.

The Aluminium Foil Insulation Association (AFIA) has published various Work Method Statements to help installers understand all the relevant workplace safety considerations.

Plus we publish all relevant safety considerations with our installation instructions.

Are foil insulation products banned from new home constructions?

No, AIR-CELL® products are perfectly acceptable in new home constructions. In fact, they are acceptable for **any** application except for installation under the HIP scheme during the interim suspension period.

