

# energy

## Bulletin

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The Director of Energy Safety issued a media statement on 21 May 2014, informing consumers about some serious safety issues with some brands and models of dc isolators installed on solar systems. The brands are:

1. Avanco branded dc isolators.
2. PVPower branded dc isolator model number XPDCISO1000V32A.
3. GEN3 and SPM branded rotary type dc isolators model numbers: GEN3DC-25, GEN3DC-32, SPMDISO-25A and SPMDISO-32A.

The Avanco and PVPower dc isolators were sold in Western Australia after 1 January 2012. The Gen3 and SPM dc isolators were sold after December 2012.

Electrical contractors should:

- not install the isolators listed below on any new installations;
- if they have installed the isolators they should contact the solar company involved and advise them to contact their customers, recommending they shut down their solar installations immediately;
- make arrangements with the solar company to replace the dc isolators; and
- contact their suppliers about refunds or product replacements.

**Avanco branded dc isolators model numbers: AV/DC4P25A, AV/DC2P25A, AV/DC4P25AUB, AV/DC2P625AU, AV/DC2P25AU, AV/DC2/2P25AU, AV/DC2/2P125AU, AV/DC4P25AU, AV/DC4P25AUS, and AV/DC4P25AUT).**

Examinations by the Queensland electrical safety regulator have identified internal faults that lead to overheating and fires with the Avanco brand of isolators that are used in solar electricity system installations. These isolators have caused several fires in Queensland and NSW.

The isolators are a rotary type, and the most common version has a red switch with a yellow background around the switch. Avanco brand switches have the brand on the front.

EnergySafety has issued prohibitions on the sale or installation of these isolators.

Queensland and NSW recall orders have been issued for the affected Avanco branded dc isolators imported by Advancetech Pty Ltd. Advancetech Pty Ltd are required under the recall order to organise replacement of the isolator and pay for all the costs relating to supply and installation of the replacement isolator they organise.

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## EnergySafety



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EnergySafety has been advised that Advancetech Pty Ltd have been placed into receivership and their contact number 1800 356 353 goes to voicemail.

Electrical Contractors who have purchased the equipment from a wholesaler should contact the wholesaler and arrange replacements. Those who have purchased directly from Advancetech Pty Ltd should contact the appointed Administrator at:

SV Partners

Tel: 07 5479 6199

Fax: 07 5479 6733

Email: [sunshinecoast@svp.com.au](mailto:sunshinecoast@svp.com.au)

<http://www.recalls.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/1059088>



*Avanco branded dc isolator*

## **PVPower branded dc isolators model number XPDCISO1000V32A**

DKSH, the importers of the PVPower brand dc isolator, have announced a voluntary recall of these isolators and are working cooperatively with regulators to affect the recall.

The isolators are a rotary type and have a red switch with a yellow background around the switch. PVPower brand switches have the brand on the front top right hand side corner.

The recall details and contact for DKSH can be found at: [www.recalls.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/1056490](http://www.recalls.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/1056490)

DKSH will organise and pay for a replacement isolator and its installation.



*PVPower branded dc isolator*

## **Gen3 and SPM branded rotary type dc isolators model numbers: GEN3DC-25, GEN3DC-32, SPMDCISO-25A and SPMDCISO-32A**

Examination by the Queensland electrical safety regulator revealed that the above models of Gen3 and SPM isolator switching mechanisms are identical to the Avanco brand which is already subject to a wider recall.

A prohibition of sale notice has been issued and the supplier has been requested to do a voluntary recall of the product. The supplier is complying with the stop sale notice, but at this stage has not issued a recall. The supplier is conducting tests to determine if the dc isolators comply with relevant Australian Standards.



*Gen3DC-25 dc isolator*