

I believe there is a good case for making it illegal to sell consumer goods that have been entered on the ACCC's recalls website. If a General Safety Provision is introduced, this would cover it (but suppliers would need to be educated). If no GPS comes in, it will remain legal to sell goods that have been recalled. The Recalls Australia database is available to everyone, including a registration service to receive alerts on different product categories. Suppliers at all levels of the supply chain can easily check whether any recalled items are included in their product range and immediately withdraw them from sale.

While the supplier that initiates the recall should have messaged all their trade customers, in some cases this might be slow to occur. And it is possible that other suppliers have sold the same item and will not have communicated with their own trade customers. Creating an ACL prohibition for all sales of recalled goods would capture such circumstances.

If a GSP is not introduced, this measure could be valuable on its own. It would help protect consumers against known hazardous products; and also promote awareness of the recalls website which is an important (and possibly under-recognised) source of product safety information for all suppliers.