



For Immediate Release

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Industry & Environmental Groups Applaud Coming into Force of Consumer Safety Legislation

Toronto, Ottawa – The Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association and Environmental Defence applaud the coming into force of the *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act*. The new Act is an update to the 40-year old *Hazardous Products Act*.

"This is great news for anyone who cares about product safety and protecting the health and welfare of Canadians," said Dr. Rick Smith, Executive Director, Environmental Defence. "It's high time Canada caught up with places like the United States and Europe in protecting its citizens."

The European Union and the United States currently have laws that enable their governments to make mandatory product recalls and to order product safety tests, and now Canada does too. Prior to this new legislation, recalls were only made by companies voluntarily.

"This legislation provides Canada with the tools we need to respond rapidly to dangerous consumer products in the marketplace," says CCSPA President Shannon Coombs. "The health and safety of Canadians is the priority for all of our members and we firmly support this new law."

"We are pleased to see this commitment to Canadian consumers fulfilled and are thankful to all parties that legislation has become law and is now being implemented," said Smith.

Coombs added, "Our congratulations on making this Act a reality goes out to Minister Aglukkaq, Health Canada, and our partners."

About Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association (www.ccsa.org): CCSPA is a national trade association that represents 45 member companies across Canada, collectively a \$20 billion industry directly employing 12,000 people in over 120 facilities. Our companies manufacture, process, package and distribute consumer, industrial and institutional specialty products such as soaps and detergents, pest control products, aerosols, hard surface disinfectants, deodorizers and automotive chemicals.

About Environmental Defence (www.environmentaldefence.ca): Environmental Defence is Canada's most effective environmental action organization. We challenge, and inspire change in government, business and people to ensure a greener, healthier and prosperous life for all.

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