

A.I.S.E. VOLUNTARY SAFETY ADVICE FOR CONSUMER EDUCATION ON DRAIN OPENERS

Drain openers are part of the A.I.S.E. portfolio of consumer products. As part of our ongoing education for consumers, and as a result of a collaboration with Poison Control Centres in Sweden, Belgium, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands, the following advice has been developed for marketers of drain openers.

The key advice is to provide **voluntary safety advice for consumers**. For this, we propose to have information on pack that addresses: don't leave the sink unattended or keep the room locked for the entire soaking time; the used bottle should be closed with a Child Resistant Closure after each use and when emptied for being thrown away; and the product must be kept out of reach of children at all time. Based on A.I.S.E. research that indicates that consumers prefer simpler labels with less text¹, we suggest for companies to convey the information using icons. This would preferably be done in a way that makes the information clearly visible and limits overcrowding of the back label (e.g. putting it on the front of pack, using a sticker, etc. ...).

1. Recommended icon developed by A.I.S.E. (Keep away from children):



2. For drain openers where gloves are required due to classification, always include the P statement "P280: Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection" on pack. Or in line with A.I.S.E. data that consumers take better note of icons rather than text, include this in the form of an icon.
3. Encourage immediate washing of eyes in case of incident. Recommended icon (Keep away from eyes. If product gets into eyes, rinse thoroughly with water):



*Additional proposal developed by the French Cleaning Products Association:*² the Code of Good Practice to be Followed for Manufacturers of Drain Openers advises to add "odour repulsive" substances to the formulation (e.g. 1.5% - 2% of ammoniac to liquid soda-based drain openers). However, this suggestion is based on the speculation that a child would not ingest an unpleasant smelling product, which has, to A.I.S.E. knowledge, never been proven by scientific data.

¹ <https://www.aise.eu/cust/documentrequest.aspx?DocID=3992>

² Code des Pratiques Loyales et Usages des fabricants de produits d'entretien, désinfectants, pesticides et d'hygiene. ADEPHY 2002