

# Chubb Declares War on Water Damage

Chubb's war on water damage is aimed at raising client and broker awareness of the issues surrounding water damage losses and share risk management solutions that may not have been considered.

CHUBB®



## The Facts:

- An escape of water loss can be especially disruptive to our clients, often requiring them to vacate their homes for extended periods.
- Causes of an escape of water loss include plumbed fridges, water filters, dishwashers, washing machines, toilets and hand basins.
- Escape of water losses tend to occur when the property is unattended. Holiday homes are particularly vulnerable.
- High value homes are more susceptible to an escape of water loss as they are likely to have multiple wet areas and appliances, increasing the likelihood that one will fail. Custom finishes to timber floors, joinery and cabinetry, combined with alternative accommodation expenses, can significantly increase repair costs.
- Water damage is our most costly single cause of loss, representing 36% of Masterpiece claims by value.
- Traditional risk mitigation has focused on fire and theft through locking devices, alarm systems, smoke detectors and the like. However, there is a far greater underlying threat which to now has largely been ignored - **water damage**.

## The Solution:

There are two options to water leak detection, one being water sensors that detect a water leak at its infancy, the other being a water shut-off device which automatically shuts off the flow, preventing a significant escape of water. Each component can operate independently, however with the two components combined, escape of water claims can be significantly reduced.

**Water sensors** are designed to sense water and send an alert, and are ideally suited to high risk appliances such as plumbed fridges, water filters, dishwashers and washing machines. As a stand-alone device they can send an alert to your mobile phone or notify a security control room if you have a monitored security alarm, so that you can take appropriate action. When combined with a water shut-off device, the water can be shut off at the mains the moment the water sensor detects water, preventing any further escape.

**Water shut-off devices** constantly monitor the flow of water and operate on time based parameters, shutting off the water at the mains once water flow reaches the pre-set time. These systems are fully programmable to suit usage and occupancy patterns. They also have home and away modes to maximize protection when the building is unattended.

## The Benefits:

- Minimises water damage to property and contents caused by water leaks and faulty plumbing/appliances
- Avoids the trauma and inconvenience of a major water damage loss
- Provides peace of mind while your primary home or holiday home is unattended
- Prevents excess water bills caused by previously unknown leaks
- Eliminates water wastage and raises water consumption awareness

## The Options:

1. **Aquatrip Australia Pty Ltd** has a variety of products covering **both water sensing and water shut-off devices** that have been rigorously tested over many years and have proven to be effective in reducing water damage and water wastage. For more information on Aquatrip products please go to [www.aquatrip.com](http://www.aquatrip.com)



2. **Water sensing** devices that can be integrated with your security alarm are available from most of the major manufacturers of security alarm systems, including



**Ness Corporation, DSC Australia, Honeywell Security Group and Hills Limited.** You will need to be aware of the location of your water meter so that the mains supply can be turned off as soon as possible to limit the damage. This is why water sensing devices on their own are

not as effective as a water detection system that can automatically shut off your water when a leak is detected. Should you wish to install water sensing devices we recommend that you contact your existing security consultant, or visit the websites of the companies listed above.

Chubb will continue to monitor the development of alternative water detection systems and will keep you updated through on-going communications. In the interim, we recommend that you consider the **Aquatrip** water leak detection system as a means to preventing an escape of water loss. Alternatively, you may consider installing water sensors to high risk areas that can be connected to your security alarm.

For more information on Chubb's water prevention strategies please click [here](#).

## About Chubb in Australia

Chubb is the world's largest publicly traded property and casualty insurer. Chubb, via acquisitions by its predecessor companies, has been present in Australia for almost 100 years. Its operation in Australia (Chubb Insurance Australia Limited) provides specialised and customised coverages include Marine, Property, Liability, Energy, Professional Indemnity, Directors & Officers, Financial Lines, Utilities as well as Accident & Health, for a broad client base, including many of the country's largest companies.

More information can be found at [www.chubb.com/au](http://www.chubb.com/au)

## Contact Us

Chubb Insurance Australia Limited  
ABN: 23 001 642 020 AFSL: 239687

Grosvenor Place  
Level 38, 225 George Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
O +61 2 9335 3200  
[www.chubb.com/au](http://www.chubb.com/au)

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