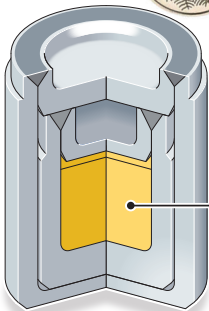
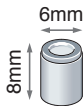


# Missing radioactive capsule found

Australian authorities have recovered the tiny capsule after a specialist vehicle detected radiation south of Newman. Its precise location was found using portable detectors

**CAPSULE:** Silver cylinder smaller than Australian 10 cent coin



■ Capsule, containing radioactive isotope **Caesium-137**, is part of gauge used to measure density of iron ore feed

■ One hour of exposure from around one metre away is equivalent of having 10 X-rays



1 metre



■ Prolonged contact can cause skin burns, acute radiation sickness and cancer

**Jan 10:** Truck leaves Rio Tinto mine of **Gudai-Darri**

**Feb 1:** Capsule found two metres off side of road



Newman

Highway 95

Route: 1,400km

AUSTRALIA

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Perth

**Jan 16:** Truck reaches depot  
**Jan 25:** Gauge found broken apart, capsule missing

INDIAN OCEAN

Albany

100km  
60 miles

■ Vibrations in transit may have loosened bolts on gauge, allowing capsule to fall through gaps in casing

Pictures: DFES WA, RODNAE Productions via Pexels