



Building Commission

Number: 2010/010

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Date: June 2010

Quality of insulation products

The Commonwealth Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts has been advised that some insulation products, in particular imported glass-wool batts, have not been tested appropriately and fail to comply with the Australian Standard AS/NZS 4859.1:2002.

As a consequence of the increase in demand for insulation products under the Commonwealth's discontinued Home Insulation Program, some installers sought products from overseas suppliers. It has now been brought to the attention of the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts that there may now be a large supply of substandard glass-wool batts and other insulation products that could find its way into new housing.

The Building Commission would like to emphasise the importance to building practitioners, that when insulation is required as part of compliance with the Deemed-to-Satisfy provisions of the BCA, building practitioners are encouraged to:

- request a copy of a report by an accredited laboratory showing that the insulation product complies with testing, labelling and quality assurance requirements of the Australian Standard AS/NZS 4859.1:2002;
- check that labelling or manufacturing supply documentation includes a statement that the insulation product complies with Australian Standard AS/NZS 4859.1:2002;
- check that the labelling or manufacturing documentation declares the R-value of the product, and that this meets the specified R-value for the location of the dwelling; and
- only purchase insulation from a reputable source.

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BUILDING COMMISSION