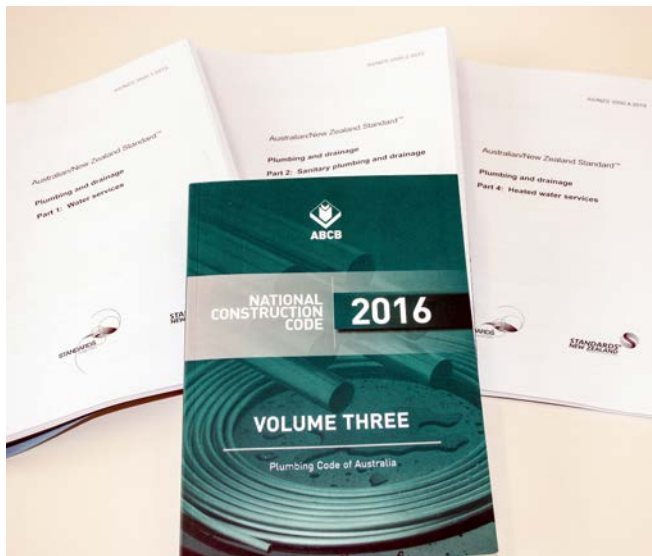




This technical note has been issued to inform plumbing industry stakeholders that Standards Australia has published new 2015 versions of AS/NZS 3500, Parts 1, 2 & 4 of the plumbing and drainage standards that will come into effect on 1 May 2016. This note shall be read in conjunction with the Plumbing Code of Australia and Part 6 of the Plumbers Licensing and Plumbing Standards Regulations 2000 (the Regulations).



The PCA is Volume 3 of the National Construction Code Series which has now entered a three year amendment cycle, meaning all three Volumes will remain mostly unchanged for 3 years. The PCA 2016 is now available to download (free of charge) from the Australian Building Codes Board web site and will come into effect on 1 May 2016, as with the AS/NZS 3500:2015 series of standards.

www.abcb.gov.au

There are few technical changes in the new versions of AS/NZS 3500 parts 1, 2 and 4 although some clauses, all tables and figures have been re-numbered. Part 4 contains some technical changes, the main changes are as follows:

The new versions of the AS/NZS series of standards have been drafted in order to meet the Australian Building Codes Board's protocols for standards referenced in the National Construction Code, Volume 3 the Plumbing Code of Australia (PCA).

These protocols will ensure that Deemed-to-Satisfy standards:

- ▶ do not contain Public Policy;
- ▶ clearly identify normative from informative content;
- ▶ avoid duplication in the PCA;
- ▶ do not assign regulatory responsibility to others. Examples include "in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations" or "approved by the authority having jurisdiction"; and
- ▶ provide clarification of provisions and terms within the Standard.

Adoption of AS/NZS 3500:2015 series

In Western Australia the PCA is automatically adopted under the Regulations in regulation 48 as the current plumbing standards. The AS/NZS 3500 series, Parts 1, 2 and 4 and some additional requirements are listed as the deemed-to-satisfy provisions in the parts of the PCA regulated as plumbing work in WA.

Section 1 Scope and general

Clause 1.8 Velocity requirements

A new table 1.8 has been inserted to indicate maximum heated water velocities for circulatory and other piping systems. Circulatory systems are defined in the notes below the table.

Section 6 Installation of solar water heaters

Section 6 was re-written as a separate Standards Australia project and there are many changes and additional information. It is recommended that stakeholders read this section carefully to become familiar with the changes for example:

Clause 6.5.1.2 Orientation

It is now mandatory to install solar heater collectors facing no more than 45 degrees east or west of true north.

Clause 6.5.1.3 Inclination

It is now mandatory to install solar heater collectors inclined at an angle within 20 degrees of the local latitude angle listed in a new magnetic declination table 6.5.1.2.

NOTE: A list of the major changes is available from the Building Commission on request.

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Notes

The technical note series is issued by the Plumbers Licensing Board to assist the plumbing industry to comply with the Plumbers Licensing and Plumbing Standards Regulations 2000 applicable to plumbing work in Western Australia.

Each technical note is to be read in conjunction with Part 6 of the Regulations that currently adopt the Plumbing and Drainage Standard AS/NZS 3500:2003 but modified in certain matters to suit the State's building approach and other local conditions.

Feedback

The Plumbers Licensing Board welcomes your feedback. If you have any questions on this technical note or any suggestions on any areas of plumbing work that the technical notes should cover, please contact the Board's Senior Technical Officer on (08) 6251 1377.

Copies

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