

AUSTRALIAN BUILDING CODES BOARD

WaterMark Certification Scheme



Notice of Direction

2013/12.0

WaterMark Risk Assessment Process

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Intent

The intent of this notice is to provide clarification and instruction on the WaterMark Risk Assessment Process.

Background

This Notice of Direction is provided in accordance with clause 5 of the Rules for the WaterMark Certification Trade Marks.

On 25 February 2013 responsibility for management and administration of the WaterMark Certification Scheme (WMCS) transferred to the ABCB.

Until a full review of the WMCS has been undertaken to facilitate a smooth transition, the ABCB will operate the WMCS essentially as is. In the interim some preliminary changes will be necessary. These reflect the transfer of the WMCS to the ABCB, including changes required to enable the ABCB office to meet its reporting obligations to Ministers, the Department of Industry and the Board.

Reference Documents

Primary

- WMCS TradeMark Rules
- Approved Certifier Agreement
 - Clause 4.5 Providing Information and assistance to the ABCB
 - The Approved Certifier must:
 - (c) use its best endeavours to provide the ABCB with any information or assistance that may require on any matters in relation to the Watermarks; and
 - (d) co-operate with the ABCB to maintain the integrity, validity and ABCB ownership of the WaterMarks.
- National Construction Code – Volume 3 - Plumbing Code of Australia (PCA)
 - Provision G1.5.3.1 Risk assessment process for materials and products for which there is no appropriate specification.
 - Provision G1.5.3.2 Consequence score less than 3 (Certification not required)
 - Provision G1.5.3.3 Consequence score of 3-4 (Certification Level 2)
 - Provision G1.5.3.4 Consequence score of more than 4 (Certification Level 1)
- SAA MP78:1999 Manual for the assessment of risks of plumbing products
- WaterMark Schedule of Specifications

- WaterMark List of Exempt Products

Guidance

- Procedures for Certification of Plumbing and Drainage Products (formerly known as AS 5200.000:2006)

Direction

The following directions are made to stakeholders of the WMCS:

- 1.0 Where the material or product is not listed in Table A2.1 or there is no appropriate specification, the WMCAB is to carry out an assessment of the risks associated with the use of the material or product in accordance with MP78. The outcomes of the assessment must be submitted to the ABCB for verification in accordance with Provision G1.5.3 of the PCA.
- 2.0 Where the material and product has an ABCB verified risk consequence score of 3 or more, and there is no specification listed on the WaterMark Schedule of Specifications, the WMCAB is to develop and submit for ABCB approval a WaterMark Technical Specification (WMTS) and associated assessment details as per ABCB WaterMark Notice of Direction 2013/1.0 and Clause C.4 of Procedures for Certification of Plumbing and Drainage Products.
- 3.0 Where the material or product has an ABCB verified risk consequence score of less than 3, the ABCB will incorporate the material or product into the List of Exempt Products.
- 4.0 Materials and products listed on the List of Exempt Products will not require WaterMark Certification and will therefore need to demonstrate authorisation for use in a plumbing and drainage installation by evidence of suitability in accordance with Provision A2.2 (a) (ii)-(iv) of the PCA.
- 5.0 The ABCB Office will issue a written statement verifying the assessment of the risk consequence score and subsequent listing of the material or product. Correspondence will be distributed to all WMCABs and the State and Territory Plumbing Administrators.
- 6.0 The above directions become effective as of 1 December 2013.

Consequence of Failure to Comply

Failure to comply with this direction may result in a breach of trademark or the process of certification and authorisation of products, which may cause the termination of the Approved Agreements or Licence.

Further Information

Should any WMCAB or Approved User require further clarification, they should contact the ABCB office directly for further advice on 1300 134 631 or email watermark@abcb.gov.au

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