

## WaterMark Certification Scheme

### Notice of Direction

**2013/4.0**

## Update, renewal and assenting of Australian Technical Specifications / WaterMark Technical Specifications

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### Intent

The intent of this notice is to provide clarification on the update, renewal and assenting of WaterMark Technical Specifications (WMTS) (and/or Australian Technical Specifications (ATS)).

### 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 office 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 office, including changes required to enable the ABCB office to meet its reporting obligations to Ministers, the Department of Industry and the Board.

The ABCB office has received multiple requests to update existing WaterMark Technical Specifications (WMTS) and Australian Technical Specifications (ATS).

### Reference Documents

#### Primary

- National Construction Code – Volume 3 - Plumbing Code of Australia (PCA)
- SAA MP78:1999 Manual for the assessment of risks of plumbing products

#### Guidance

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

### Direction

The following directions are made to WaterMark Conformity Assessment Bodies (WMCAB) of the WMCS:

1. During the interim period the ABCB office will not accept or progress any requests to update an existing WMTS (or ATS) that may disadvantage any existing licence against the specification.
2. The ABCB office will not enforce the assenting of existing WMTS (or ATS) to an existing Standard or convert the WMTS (or ATS) into a new Australian Standard within 2 years as detailed within provision G1.5.3.3 of the PCA.
3. Should a WMCAB identify that an existing WMTS (or ATS) relates to, but does not completely satisfy, the elements of the product or material to be certified, the WMCAB is to make application for drafting of a new WMTS to the ABCB office.
4. Should critical errors be identified within an existing WMTS (or ATS), the errors are to be made known to the ABCB office. The errors will be reviewed and appropriate modification or action will be taken by the ABCB office.
5. Any minor typographical errors are identified in the exiting WMTS are to be made known to the ABCB office. The minor typographical errors will be reviewed and appropriate modification and or action will be taken by the ABCB office.
6. The above directions become effective as of 1 December 2013.

### **Consequence of Failure to Comply**

Any requests made to the ABCB office to modify an existing WMTS (or ATS) will be rejected.

### **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](mailto:watermark@abcb.gov.au).

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