



Building Newsflash

AMENDMENT NO 12 TO THE BUILDING CODE OF AUSTRALIA

Purpose

The purpose of this Newsflash is to advise of changes to the Building Code of Australia (BCA) as a result of Amendment 12 to the BCA.

Background

Changes to the BCA resulting from Amendment No 12 took effect in Queensland on 1 January 2003. A summary of the more significant changes follows and the complete list of changes is available on the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) website <http://www.abcb.gov.au/content/publications/> under Building Code of Australia 96, List of Amendments - Amendment No 12.

Legislative requirements

BCA Vol 1

Wind loading requirements

The amendments allow the 1989 edition of the AS 1170 wind loading codes to be used as an alternative to the 2002 edition as a means of satisfying the relevant structural requirements of Part B1.0.

A Newsflash entitled 'Advice On The Use Of Loading Standards', produced by the ABCB in conjunction with the States and Territories, provides more detailed information on the changes and can be viewed at the Departments Internet site at the following link:

http://www.dlgp.qld.gov.au/corporate/publications/building_codes/newsflash/2003

Sarking crossing walls required to have an FRL

Clause C2.7 has been amended to allow sarking, as well as roof battens, to cross a wall required to have an FRL. This is to remove any conflict with the new energy efficiency provisions in Volume 2 (see comments below) and the requirement of AS 2050 for sarking to be provided under tiles on a roof pitch of less than 15 degrees.

BCA Vol 2

Wind loading requirements

The BCA has also been amended to allow the 1989 edition of the AS 1170 wind loading codes to be used as an alternative to the 2002 edition as a means of satisfying the relevant structural requirements of Volume 2.

Sarking crossing walls required to have an FRL

Clause 3.7.1.8 has been amended to allow sarking, as well as roof battens, to cross a wall required to have an FRL. This is to remove any conflict with the new energy efficiency provisions in Volume 2 (see comments below) and the requirement of AS 2050 for sarking to be provided under tiles on a roof pitch of less than 15 degrees.

Energy efficiency

Amendment No. 12 includes the introduction of energy efficiency measures for housing in Parts 2.6 and 3.12. However, The energy efficiency provisions **will not** apply in Queensland on 1 January 2003.

Queensland is working towards the introduction of the BCA energy efficiency provisions on **1 July 2003**. This is to allow more time to consult with stakeholders and to undertake education and training.

Contact Officer

If you require further information please contact Ron de Veer on 07 32371232.