

Attachment: Summary of PCA 2016 Changes

Relevant PCA Section	Nature of Change	Description and Impact of Change
Part A1.1 - Definitions	<i>Adequate</i> – this term has been deleted, and replaced with “ <i>required</i> ” or “ <i>suitable</i> ” where it was previously referenced throughout the PCA.	Minimal - The term <i>Required</i> or <i>Suitable</i> is intended to provide greater clarity for practitioners. When carrying out plumbing work, practitioners must ensure they have done everything required to satisfy the Performance Requirements.
	<i>Alternative Solution</i> – this has been replaced with <i>Performance Solution</i> .	Minimal - The change of name from <i>Alternative Solutions</i> to <i>Performance Solutions</i> has no practical impact on practitioner obligations. The renaming is designed to encourage practitioners to think of a <i>Performance Solution</i> as equal to the Australian Standards.
	<i>Functional Statement</i> and <i>Objective</i> –both terms have been deleted	Minimal - Both the <i>Functional Statement</i> and <i>Objective</i> terms in each Part of the PCA have been relocated to clearly labelled “Explanatory Information” sections.
	<i>Performance Requirement</i> - amended slightly to accommodate change in terminology for alternative solution	Minimal - Definition amended to include new defined terms <i>Performance Solution</i> and <i>Deemed to Satisfy</i> ”
	<i>Recognised testing laboratory</i> replaced with <i>Registered Testing Authority</i>	Minimal - New definition to align with NCC volumes 1 and 2
	<i>WaterMark Certification Scheme</i> related definitions- deletion of the following terms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Approved user,</i> • <i>Certification Mark,</i> • <i>Specification,</i> • <i>Warranty,</i> • <i>WaterMark Certificate of Conformity</i> • <i>WaterMark Exempt Product</i> 	Minimal - The relocation of the <i>WaterMark Certification Scheme</i> means these terms are no longer necessary.
Part A2.1 - Suitability of Materials and Products	This section has been rewritten to reflect the relocation of the <i>WaterMark</i> requirements to the ABCB website and changes to the fit for purpose requirements.	<p>Minimal - The relocation of the requirements for <i>WaterMark</i> to the ABCB website has minimal impact for practitioners. The requirement to install <i>WaterMarked</i> products remains in force.</p> <p>Products which are not required to be <i>WaterMarked</i> are still required to be fit for purpose, and this must be demonstrated using the methods under “A2.2 Evidence of Suitability”.</p> <p>Practitioners should consult the <i>WaterMark</i> section of the ACBC website for more information.</p>
	A2.1 (g) A Material of product used in a fire fighting water service is authorised by use if it is	Minimal - Materials or products used in fire fighting water service must still be fit for

	<p><i>certified by a recognised body as complying with the relevant Australian Standard (s) for a specified application – this statement has been deleted.</i></p>	<p>purpose. This can be demonstrated through any of the specified methods under “A2.2 Evidence of Suitability” which includes certification, report or other documentary evidence from a recognised expert, registered testing authority, professional engineer or other appropriately qualified persons demonstrating suitability.</p>
	<p><i>A2.1 (h) A material or product used in a stormwater installation is authorised for use if it is certified by a recognised body as complying with Section 2 of AS/NZS 3500.3 in accordance with A2.2 – this statement has been deleted.</i></p>	<p>Minimal - Materials or products used in a stormwater installation must still be fit for purpose. This can be demonstrated through any of the specified methods under “A2.2 Evidence of Suitability” which includes certification, report or other documentary evidence from a recognised expert, registered testing authority, professional engineer or other appropriately qualified persons demonstrating suitability.</p>
	<p><i>Table A2.1 Materials and products which require authorisation – this table has been deleted as it is transferred to the WaterMark Certification Scheme</i></p>	<p>Minimal - For a listing of which materials and products are required to be WaterMarked, see the <i>WaterMark Schedule of Products</i> on the ABCB website.</p>
Part A2.2 Evidence of suitability	<p>A2.2 (b) (ii) – Added reference to Registered Testing Authority</p>	<p>Medium - The addition of <i>Registered Testing Authority</i> provides for an additional body that can issue a report to demonstrate that the material or product is suitable.</p>
Table A3.1 – Schedule of Referenced Documents	<p>The following updated referenced standards are now called up in the PCA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AS 1668.1: 2015 - The use of ventilation and air conditioning in buildings - Fire and smoke control in buildings AS/NZS 3500.1: 2015 - <i>Plumbing and drainage - Water service</i> AS/NZS 3500.2: 2015 - <i>Plumbing and drainage – Sanitary plumbing and drainage</i> AS/NZS 3500.3: 2015 - <i>Plumbing and drainage – Stormwater drainage</i> AS/NZS 3500.4: 2015 - <i>Plumbing and drainage – Heated Water services</i> Amendment 3 to AS/NZS 4234: 2008 	<p>Minimal – The updated Standards were already called up in Victoria at the time of their publication. Practitioners should ensure that they are working to the following publications.</p> <p>For more information on the impacts of changes, see VBA’s Standards Alerts.</p>
	<p>Two referenced documents have been deleted as a result of the WaterMark scheme being moved to the ABCB website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ISO/IEC Guide 67:2004 - <i>Conformity assessment – Fundamentals of product certification</i> ABCB - <i>Manual for the Assessment of Risks of Plumbing Products</i> 	<p>Minimal – Documents are still available for download</p>
Parts B to F	<p>The relocation of the ‘Objectives’ and ‘Functional Statements’ into sections clearly</p>	<p>Minimal - The PCA is divided into mandatory and non-mandatory sections. The purpose of</p>

	labelled as advisory. This will separate them from the mandatory technical provisions and Performance Requirements listed under each class of plumbing work.	relocation and re-labelling was to clearly differentiate the mandatory from the non-mandatory provisions
BP3.2 - Non-Drinking Water Services - Identification	<p>"Pipes" added to this performance requirement.</p> <p>This clause covers the requirements for the proper identification of non-drinking water fittings and systems. The PCA 2016 now specifically requires pipes that form part of a non-drinking water system to be clearly identified.</p>	Minimal - Practitioners should already be clearly identifying and labelling pipes that form part of non-drinking water system in accordance with AS/NZS 3500.1:2015 - Plumbing and drainage – Water Services.
Section G – Certification and Authorisation	<p>The provisions detailing the <i>WaterMark Certification Scheme</i> requirements have been relocated to the ABCB website.</p> <p>Practitioners should be aware that the WaterMark requirements for plumbing and drainage materials and products remain mandatory.</p>	Minimal - WaterMark remains mandatory at the point of installation.
Victoria Appendix – B2.2A (a)(ii)	This Variation has been rewritten to clarify that practitioners may only use AS/NZS 3500.5:2012 for installations in Class 1a or Class 10 buildings.	Minimal – The amendment clarifies when AS/NZS 3500.5:2012 can be used. There is no change in the requirements.
Victoria Appendix – B4.2 (c)	Inserted new requirement to install fire sprinkler protection in covered balconies in Class 2, 3, 4, 9a and 9b buildings.	Minimal – The fire sprinkler protection requirements in covered balconies for all Class 2, 3, 4, 9a and 9b buildings was introduced as a plumbing regulatory amendment in December 2015. The same requirements have now been replicated in the PCA for consistency purposes.