ADVISORY NOTE

2017-1

NCC Referenced Documents – End of Transition Period

Application

NCC Volume/s: One and Two

AS 3660.1 – Termite Management: B1.4, F1.9 (NCC Volume One)
3.1.3.2, 3.1.3.3 (NCC Volume Two)

AS 3786 – Smoke Alarms: Spec E2.2a (NCC Volume One)
3.7.2.2 (NCC Volume Two)

Date first issued: April 2017

Date revised: -
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Published by: Australian Building Codes Board First published: April 2017
GPO Box 2013 Print version: 1.0
CANBERRA ACT 2601 Release date: April 2017
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www.abcb.gov.au
Introduction

The National Construction Code (NCC) comprises of the Building Code of Australia (BCA) as Volumes One and Two and the Plumbing Code of Australia (PCA) as Volume Three. The NCC references a number of documents, such as Australian Standards, that can be used to demonstrate compliance with the NCC.

When the NCC references new editions or amendments to a referenced document, sometimes they are referenced alongside an older version of the document for a period of time. During the transition period, either version of the document can be used, which allows industry time to transition from the old version to the new one. Once the transition period ends, compliance with the old version is no longer permitted as part of a Deemed-to-Satisfy Solution.

These transitional arrangements are described in a note where the document is listed in the Schedule of Referenced Documents in Section A of NCC Volume One and Volume Three, and Part 1 of NCC Volume Two. For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AS 3660</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Termite management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>New building work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[Note: The 2000 edition has been retained for a transitional period ending on 30 April 2017]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part 1</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>New building work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On 30 April 2017, the transition period for two BCA referenced documents will end. These documents contain requirements for termite management and smoke alarms.

The changes in more detail

**AS 3660 – Part 1 Termite management – New building work**

The termite management provisions are located in NCC Volume One, Part B Structural provisions, and Volume Two, Part 3.1.2 and 3.1.3.3 Termite management systems.

Referencing the newer 2014 edition of this Australian Standard in NCC Volumes One and Two prompted a two year transition period for the 2000 edition. From 1 May 2017, this transition ends and only the 2014 edition of the Standard will be able to be used under the Deemed-to-Satisfy Provisions.
The objective of the 2014 revision of AS 3660.1 is to provide contemporary solutions which may be applied during construction for the management of the risk to structures arising from subterranean termite attack.

**AS 3786 – Smoke alarms**

The smoke alarm provisions are located in NCC Volume One, Specification E2.2a Smoke detection and alarm systems, and Volume Two, Part 3.7.2 Smoke alarms.

Referencing the newer 2014 edition of this Australian Standard in NCC Volumes One and Two prompted a two year transition period for the 1993 edition. From 1 May 2017, this transition ends and only the 2014 edition of the Standard will be able to be used under the Deemed-to-Satisfy Provisions.

The objective of the 2014 revision of AS 3786 is to define the requirements for smoke alarms having given due consideration to requirements within International Standards, as set out by ISO, and those specific to the Australian environmental and regulatory framework.

**Which version of the NCC or its referenced documents apply to your project?**

If you have any doubt about the version of the NCC or Australian Standard that applies to a particular project, and therefore what is a valid compliance option, you should seek advice from your approval authority or State or Territory Building Control Administration.