



Building newsflash number 447

New swimming pool safety laws update

Purpose

To advise the Building Regulation 2006 has been amended to adopt a revised version of Queensland Development Code (QDC) MP 3.4 and new pool safety approved forms are now available.

Background

The Queensland Government has introduced Australia's toughest pool safety laws as a result of the most comprehensive review of Queensland's pool safety laws in nearly 20 years. The new pool safety laws aim to further reduce the incidences of drowning and serious immersion injuries of young children in swimming pools.

The new laws are being implemented in stages, with new regulations commencing last year on 1 December 2009 and two new Acts passed by Parliament in May and September this year. Supporting material, including new regulations, codes, forms and road shows are now being progressively prepared.

Issues

Building Amendment Regulation (No 4) 2010

The Building Amendment Regulation (No.4) 2010 has been made and can be accessed at www.legislation.qld.gov.au. With the exception of section 16A, the Building Amendment Regulation (No.4) 2010 commences on 15 October 2010. It:

- sets the pool safety resuscitation sign requirements for all regulated pools, including outdoor and indoor pools associated with houses, townhouses, units, hotels, motels, caretaker dwellings, home-stay accommodation and caravan parks
- sets out additional particulars that must be entered into the pool safety register
- sets the professional indemnity insurance required for pool safety inspectors. Evidence of the required insurance must be provided when applying for a pool safety inspector licence.
- approves the Code of conduct for swimming pool safety inspectors, which is available on the [department's website](#)
- adopts the revised version of QDC for swimming pool barriers
- details the minor repairs that can be done by licensed pool safety inspectors
- details the repairs and maintenance for regulated pools that are self-assessable
- sets out a range of new pool safety related fees.

Revised QDC MP3.4

A revised version of QDC MP 3.4 for swimming pool barriers commenced on 15 October 2010. All regulated pools constructed on or after 15 October 2010 must comply with MP 3.4. This includes all outdoor and indoor pools associated with class 1, 2, 3 or 4 buildings or caravan parks. The new version of MP 3.4 can be accessed on the [department's website](#).

Swimming pool safety approved forms

A range of new approved forms, including the pool safety certificate form and nonconformity notice form, are now also [available](#) online. Further pool safety approved forms will be published over the coming weeks.

State-wide swimming pool safety laws road show

The department will be running state-wide road shows about the new pool safety laws in late November and early December 2010. Details of dates and locations will be published soon. The road shows are for key stakeholders, including Local Government officers, pool safety inspectors, building certifiers, pool builders, building designers, architects, real estate agents, property managers and pool owners.

Contact for further information

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