



# Plumbing newsflash number 478

## Online plumbing applications, tempering valves and backflow testing procedures

### Purpose

To advise of the launch of online plumbing applications and outline the requirements for tempering valves and revised testing procedures for backflow prevention devices.

### Smart eDA launch

The following forms may now be lodged online at any time using the Plumbing Application System (PAS)—

- Form 1—Compliance assessment application for plumbing, drainage and on-site sewerage work
- Form 4—Notifiable minor work
- Form 7—Notification of responsible person
- Form 9—Report on inspection and testing of backflow prevention devices.

Form 1 must be lodged before the regulated work commences. Form 4 must be lodged within 40 days of the completion of minor work (e.g. installation of a solar hot water system). Applicants wishing to lodge these forms through the online system can do so where a local government participates in the system. The system commenced on 30 August 2011.

Using PAS, applicants may submit any associated documents (such as site plans or drainage reports) electronically with the online form. This will reduce the amount of hard copy documents sent to local government.

Under the PAS, plumbers and builders will be able to keep track of their submitted forms and any associated documents sent to a local government. Applicants can check the status of their application without having to contact the local government as the system automatically updates the status of an application whenever a local government officer has accessed the application or its associated documents.

To confirm whether a local government has signed up to the PAS, [click here](#). Where a local government is on this list and you would like to use this system, please [click here](#) to register and start using this system now.



## Tempering valves

The *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002* (PDA) applies Australian Standard AS 3500 parts 1, 2 & 4. The AS3500.4 Heated Water Services requires all new heated water installations to be fitted with temperature controls on all fixtures and appliances used primarily for personal hygiene to reduce the likelihood of scalding. [Newsflash 456](#) outlined requirements for the installation of tempering devices on new hot water installations and further clarification on the requirements is provided below.

A tempering valve must be installed in the following situations:

- installation or replacement of a water heater (including like for like replacements)
- installation of a new fixture used primarily for personal hygiene purposes.

A tempering valve is not required to be installed for:

- changing tap ware
- replacing an existing fixture used primarily for personal hygiene (same position)
- replacing tap washers or a shower head
- extending of hot water piping not associated with the installation of new fixtures
- general maintenance or replacement of pipework, valves or fittings associated with a hot water system.

## Backflow testing procedures

Backflow testing procedures changed on 1 July 2010 to correct the method of testing and recording information when conducting a test of a backflow prevention device. AS 2845.3.2010 was amended and reprinted to reflect the changes to testing backflow devices. Form 9—Report on inspection and testing of backflow prevention devices has been amended to reflect the changes made to AS 2845.3. To perform backflow testing a licensee must have the relevant licence endorsement.

## Contact for further information

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