



Building Newsflash

The CodeMark Scheme

Purpose

To provide advice on the new product certification scheme (CodeMark) for Australia and New Zealand.

Background

CodeMark replaces the Australian Building Products and Certification System (Certificates of Conformity), previously administered by the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB).

Under CodeMark, third-party certification bodies evaluate and certify products, forms of construction and designs to ensure they meet specified requirements of the Building Code of Australia (BCA).

It will not be a mandatory requirement in Queensland to obtain a Certificate under the CodeMark scheme.

The scheme is managed by the ABCB and the New Zealand Department of Building and Housing in their respective jurisdictions. The Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand (JAS-ANZ) accredits the certification bodies, which in turn, evaluate and certify building products in order to ensure compliance with the BCA. Any products approved under CodeMark and details of CodeMark certification bodies in Australia, will be listed on the ABCB's web site at www.abcb.gov.au.

Legislation

Amendments will be made to the *Standard Building Regulation 1993* to recognise that products, etc, approved under CodeMark provide absolute proof of compliance with the BCA.

Part A2.2 and Part 1.2 (Volume 2) of the BCA contain provisions regarding Certificates of Conformity issued under the current scheme. It provides that a current Certificate of Conformity is one form of evidence that can be used to support a case that the use of a material, form of construction or design meets Performance Requirements or Deemed-to-Satisfy Provisions.

Before relying on a Certificate of Conformity, users should ensure that the use of the product is within the scope of the Certificate, that any conditions and limitations on the Certificate are satisfied, and that the Certificate is current.

The CodeMark Scheme will commence in Queensland on 1 May 2006, following the amendment of the *Standard Building Regulation 1993*.

To obtain further information about the CodeMark Scheme for Australia:

- Visit www.abcb.gov.au
- Email codemark@abcb.gov.au
- Call 1300 134 631

Contact Officer

Peter Rourke
Principal Advisor – Building Standards
Ph. 3237 1714

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