

SPECIFYING NCC REQUIREMENTS

INTRODUCTION

This TECHnote explains how the requirements of the National Construction Code Series (NCC) are incorporated in NATSPEC worksection specification *Templates*.

THE NCC

The NCC includes Volume One Building Code of Australia (BCA) for Class 2 to Class 9 Buildings, Volume Two BCA for Class 1 and Class 10 Buildings, and Volume Three Plumbing Code of Australia (PCA).

The goal of the NCC (BCA and PCA) is to enable the achievement of nationally consistent, minimum necessary standards of relevant safety (including structural safety and safety from fire), health, amenity and sustainability objectives efficiently.

The NCC is a performance-based code. To meet NCC *Performance Requirements*, designers may use *Deemed-to-Satisfy Solutions* and/or *Performance Solutions*. NCC conformance using *Performance Solutions* is set out in NCC Section A, Governing requirements clause A2G2.

NCC DOCUMENTS ADOPTED BY REFERENCE

The referenced documents in NCC Schedule 2 support the technical provisions of the NCC and provide a detailed means of complying with its requirements. A document that is referenced by the NCC becomes part of the building regulatory framework.

SUPERSEDED EDITIONS REFERENCED BY THE NCC

As it can take years for the updated edition of a document to be adopted in the NCC and the documents referenced within the NCC are continually updated independently, the NCC may cite superseded documents.

HOW NATSPEC MAKES REFERENCE TO THE NCC

NATSPEC includes:

- Mandatory NCC specifications and referenced standards.
- Updates to the revised NCC requirements.

NATSPEC does not include:

- Administrative requirements of local government authorities.
- NCC state or territory variations or additions.

NATSPEC references the relevant NCC requirements within the appropriate technical worksection by the following methods:

- Direct reference: e.g. Service penetration fire-stopping systems: To BCA C4D15.
- Deemed-to-Satisfy document reference: e.g. Tactile indicators: To AS/NZS 1428.4.1.

NATSPEC is based on the *Deemed-to-Satisfy Provisions* of the NCC. If a *Performance Solution* is used, amend the NATSPEC generic text to align with the alternative performance solution.

If the NCC references a superseded document, NATSPEC considers both the NCC referenced edition and the latest edition of the document. NATSPEC gives *Guidance* where a conflict exists between the NCC cited and current editions. The specifier may choose the *Deemed-to-Satisfy* superseded standard or the current standard as a *Performance Solution*.

NATSPEC REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

In *Guidance*, at the end of each worksection *Template*, NATSPEC lists all documents cited, including their number, date and title. These are grouped by their location either in the *Template* or *Guidance* text. If an NCC clause is cited within the worksection *Template*, it will be included in this list.

Relevant NCC edition

The NCC is updated every 3 years and is amended at other times as required. The specifier needs to comply with the relevant NCC edition at the time. Development Applications and or Construction Certificates may rely on different NCC editions, depending on the date of the consent.



NCC on relevant references

A reference in a *Deemed-to-Satisfy Provision* to a document under NCC A4G1 refers to the edition or issue, together with any amendment, listed in NCC Schedule 2 and only so much as is relevant in the context in which the document is quoted.

NCC on superseded editions

Where the NCC references a document under NCC A4G1 which is subject to publication of a new edition or amendment not listed under NCC Schedule 2, the new edition or amendment need not be complied with in order to comply with the *Deemed-to-Satisfy Provisions*.

Relevant websites

www.abcb.gov.au

Relevant documents

NCC - Volumes One, Two and Three

Relevant worksection

0171 General requirements