



## Industry Bulletin 141

# National Construction Code – Using the correct edition of referenced documents

***This bulletin is intended to provide guidance on using the correct edition of referenced documents as listed in Schedule 4 of the National Construction Code (NCC). It also provides comment on the use of referenced documents published outside of the NCC amendment cycles.***

Part A4 'NCC referenced documents' which forms part of the Governing Requirements explains how documents referenced in the NCC are adopted and applied. Part A4.0 (3) states, "Where a new edition, issue or amendment of a primary referenced document is not listed under Schedule 4, the new edition, issue or amendment is not referenced for the purpose of the NCC."

Where a building practitioner is responsible for a design, construction, product or material that demonstrates compliance with the NCC via the referenced documents, **compliance must be demonstrated with the edition as listed in Schedule 4, being the edition that is referenced for the purpose of the NCC.**

Since the release of the NCC 2019, Amendment 1, a number of referenced documents have been updated. As these editions and amendments are not referenced in Schedule 4, they must not be used to demonstrate compliance with the NCC as part of a Deemed-to-Satisfy Solution.

Accessing these documents online through databases can be misleading as the referenced documents may be listed as historical or superseded by the latest release of a non-referenced edition. Irrespective of how the documents appear on the database, when using referenced documents it is important to ensure you are using the correct edition as listed in Schedule 4.

### **Use of an edition not referenced in the NCC as part of a Performance Solution.**

A new edition or amendment of a referenced document not listed in Schedule 4 may be considered for use as part of a Performance Solution. Where used as part of a Performance Solution, the solution will have to demonstrate compliance with all relevant Performance

Requirements, or that it is at least equivalent to the Deemed-to-Satisfy provisions.

For more information regarding the development of a Performance Solution please refer to:  
<https://abcb.gov.au/resource/handbook/performance-solution-process-handbook>

Differences between referenced documents and alternative editions are not always obvious and may lead to unintended consequences. Therefore caution is required when using a different edition as part of a Performance Solution.

Disclaimer – The information contained in this fact sheet is provided as general information and a guide only. It should not be relied upon as legal advice or as an accurate statement of the relevant legislation provisions. If you are uncertain as to your legal obligations, you should obtain independent legal advice.

**Building and Energy** | Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety  
**1300 489 099**

8.30am – 4.30pm  
Level 1 Mason Bird Building  
303 Sevenoaks Street (entrance Grose Avenue)  
Cannington Western Australia 6107  
M: **Locked Bag 100, East Perth WA 6892**  
W: [www.dmirs.wa.gov.au/building-and-energy](http://www.dmirs.wa.gov.au/building-and-energy)  
E: [be.info@dmirs.wa.gov.au](mailto:be.info@dmirs.wa.gov.au)

### **Regional Offices**

Goldfields/Esperance	(08) 9021 9494
Great Southern	(08) 9842 8366
Kimberley	(08) 9191 8400
Mid-West	(08) 9920 9800
North-West	(08) 9185 0900
South-West	(08) 9722 2888

National Relay Service: 13 36 77

Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS): 13 14 50

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