



INFORMATION SHEET

BUILDING SERVICES

Ref: BCA 17-01
Current at: January 2017

CHANGES TO TERMITE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS FROM 1 MAY 2017

Australian Standard 3660 – Termite management (AS 3660) is a BCA referenced standard that deals with the installation of termite management systems. A new version of Part 1 which applies to 'new building work' was published in 2014 to replace the 2000 edition. However to give industry time to understand the changes a transition period was provided. Table 1.4.1 of BCA Volume 2 (below) indicates that the 2000 version was to be used until the 30 April 2017. This will change from 1 May 2017.

AS 3660		Termite management	
Part 1	2000	New building work [Note: The 2000 edition has been retained for a transitional period ending on 30 April 2017]	3.1.3.2 , 3.1.3.3
Part 1	2014	New building work	3.1.3.2 , 3.1.3.3
Part 3	2014	Assessment criteria for termite management systems	3.1.3.3

What has changed?

From 1 May 2017 home builders can only use the 2014 edition of *AS 3660.1 – New building work*.

The most significant change is that chemical hand spray treatment beneath slabs will no longer be allowed unless a reticulation system is used to allow for recharging the chemical at a later date.

The following is from Clause 7.1.1 of AS 3660.1:2014 which describes the change in policy:

“A soil chemical component system shall comply with AS 3660.3. The chemical used shall be registered by the pesticides registrar. Chemical termite management systems applied under concealed and inaccessible areas shall be replenishable via a reticulation system providing an even and continuous distribution of chemical into the soil.”

The above change is relevant to all partial or full under slab chemical soil treatment installed prior to the slab being placed. It is also applicable to any external perimeter slab edge treatment where a driveway, concrete path or paving is to be installed, regardless of whether the pathway is to be installed during the construction of the house or post construction.

Alternate termite management systems are included in AS 3660.1 and should members no longer wish to use hand spraying and reticulation systems due to this change, then another management system should be selected.

For further clarification and information on the changes in BCA 2016 HIA members can contact HIA's Building Services team on hia_technical@hia.com.au

DISCLAIMER - The above is intended to provide general information in summary form. The contents do not constitute specific advice and should not be relied upon as such. Formal specific advice should be sought by members with respect to particular matters before taking action.

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