

Building Regulation News Updates are issued as and when necessary, to keep the Tasmanian Building Industry informed of developments occurring in the industry, Building Code of Australia (BCA) and its referenced documents and legislation.

Amendments to the *Building Regulations 2004*

Purpose

This News Update is to give notice of the Gazettal of the *Building Amendment Regulations 2005* on the 21st February 2005. These regulations amend the *Building Regulations 2004* by -

- (a) increasing the amount prescribed for section 270 (1) of that Act, with the result that a levy only becomes payable for building and related plumbing work if its estimated total value exceeds \$12 000; and
- (b) extending the period during which certain places of assembly are exempt from the requirement to have a new occupancy permit; and
- (c) making minor corrections.

When will the changes apply?

The changes will apply from the 1st March 2005, the same day that amendments to the *Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Act 1990* also commence.

What are the effects of the changes?

The Building Permit Levy

- The Building Permit Levy made under s.270 (1) of the *Building Act 2000* will now only apply to building work and associated plumbing work valued at \$12,000 and above, instead of \$5,000.
- This will align with the altered \$12,000 threshold for the Building and Construction Industry Training Levy in the *Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Act 1990*.
- Thus both the Building Permit Levy, and the Building and Construction Industry Training Levy do not apply if the value of the building work is less than \$12,000.

Occupancy Permits

- A building constructed before 1994 used as a place of public assembly requires an occupancy permit under the *Building Regulations 2004* (if it does not already have an occupancy permit issued under the repealed *Building Regulations 1994*).
- An amendment to the time period in Item 3 of Schedule 6 of the *Building Regulations 2004* will give building owners additional time to obtain a new occupancy permit (the time has been extended to 1st July 2005).

Corrections

- Since the commencement of the *Building Regulations 2004* on 1 July 2004, a number of minor errors or omissions in those Regulations have been identified as requiring correction. BSR have advised stakeholders, industry, and local government of the existence of these errors and indicated what had been the intention of these provisions. The amended regulation corrects these errors.

Where can I obtain the amended *Building Regulations 2004*?

- From the State Government Law Website <http://www.thelaw.tas.gov.au>
- From the Legislation link in the Building Standards and Regulation Website <http://www.wst.tas.gov.au/building>
- Printed copies will be available from the Printing Authority of Tasmania, 2 Salamanca Place, Hobart.

This document has been produced and published by Building Standards and Regulation of the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources. Although every care has been taken in the production of the work, neither the Crown in the right of the State of Tasmania nor any servant or agent of the Crown accepts responsibility for any loss or damage suffered at any time by any person as a result of any error or inaccuracy in the publication whether or not the error or inaccuracy has resulted from negligence or any other cause.