



Tasmania

# Plumbing Regulation *Advisory Notes*

Building Standards  
and Regulation

Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources  
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Advisory notes are issued to assist in the interpretation of Tasmanian plumbing legislation.

## Prototype and Purpose Built On-site Waste Water Management Systems

### Purpose

This advice has been prepared to provide guidance to environmental health officers on the interpretation of Regulation 12(2) of the Plumbing Regulations 2004 with regards to exemptions from accreditation for on-site waste water management systems that are either a prototype system or purpose built system.

### Background

The Building Act 2000, the Plumbing Regulations 2004 and the Tasmanian Plumbing Code (TPC) provide for the Accreditation and use of on-site waste water management systems. The installation and use of accredited systems with a designed hydraulic loading of up to 100 kilolitres per day are regulated by Municipal Councils and Permit Authorities except where they are defined as Level 2 Activities under the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994.

An on-site waste water management system may only be installed if it is the subject of a certificate of accreditation currently in force and issued by the Minister (Refer to regulation 12(1)(a) Plumbing Regulations 2004). Council owned and operated systems, purpose built systems, prototype systems for the purposes of testing or systems which are classified as a Level 2 activity under the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994 need not be accredited for use as they are dealt with solely by the authority having jurisdiction.

Regulation 12 (2) is a new regulation made to make provisions for those in the business of manufacturing on-site waste water management systems to carryout research and development prior to obtaining accreditation. Regulation 12(2) also provides for one-off purpose built on-site waste water management systems designed by consultants for an owner of a premises and for that specific premises only.

To keep Local Government, Statutory Authorities, Engineers, Designers and the Plumbing Industry informed on developments, and to assist in the clarification and interpretation of parts of the Act, the Plumbing Regulations, and the Tasmanian Plumbing Code, this new series of advisory notes will be issued as and when necessary.

Please circulate to:

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**Prototype and Purpose Built On-site Waste Water Management Systems cont'd.**

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**Regulation 12 (2)**

Sub regulation (1)(a) does not apply to, or in respect of, an on-site waste water management system if the environmental health officer is satisfied that the system being installed or constructed –

- a) is a prototype for the purposes of testing; or
- b) is –
  - (i) specifically designed for the owner or occupier of the premises on which it is to be installed; and
  - (ii) specifically designed for those premises; and
  - (iii) constructed on site; and
  - (iv) not for sale.

(Extract from Plumbing Regulations 2004)

**Interpretation**

For the purposes of regulation 12 the following advice is given to interpret the terms and phrases used in regulation 12 (2).

Prototype for testing:

Prototype testing is the application of tests to one or more systems or models or part of a system or model. A prototype is an original, full-scale, and usually working model of a new product or new version of an existing product.

This does not include Trademarked™ or Patented systems.

Specifically designed for the owner or occupier of the premises on which it is to be installed; and

Specifically designed for those premises:

This does not include a system(s) designed for another premises.

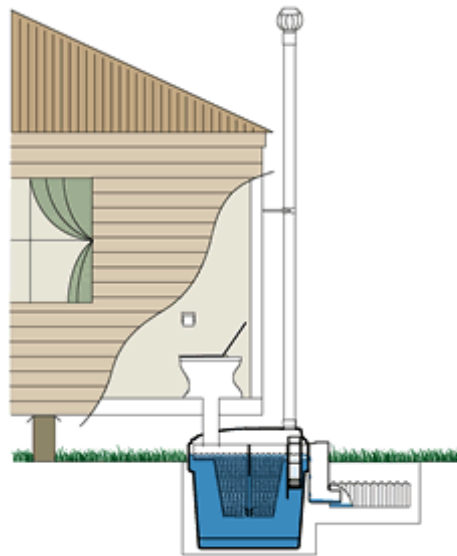
Constructed on site:

This means that the system has been constructed on the site in-situ e.g. ‘in-place’ referring to elements or components that are cast or assembled in their permanent position on a premises as distinct from being prefabricated before installation in part or whole.

Not for sale:

This means that the system is not offered for sale e.g. you cannot go to a business or place where a product or service is provided and purchase a system.

Note: Sub regulation 12 (2) (b) (vi) ‘not for sale’ must be read in conjunction with sub regulations 12 (2) (b) (i); (ii); and (iii).



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