



Roadmap to better building and plumbing outcomes through improvements to NCC 2022

Where we're coming from



National Construction Code evolution

- The NCC has evolved over 25 years. This has resulted in significant challenges with the existing structure, format and language, inhibiting digital innovation.

Expanded user base

- The NCC user base has also expanded significantly since the inception of a free online NCC. More users means different levels of knowledge and understanding.
- A new cohort of technologically-savvy practitioners are also entering the building and plumbing industries.

Digitisation in the building and plumbing industries

- The calls from industry and governments to embrace digitisation are increasing, and the current NCC publishing format was initially designed for print production only.
- Making the NCC machine-readable is essential to enable multi-platform publishing. It also allows for new, innovative digital products to integrate with the NCC.

Commitment to continuous improved readability

- There has been Board endorsement and stakeholder support for the adoption of plain language principles throughout the code, wherever possible.
- A more user-friendly, easy to access NCC is needed to meet the requirements of new platforms and a broader audience.
- As a government organisation, the ABCB is required to ensure content is accessible to users of diverse capabilities and needs. This also heightens the need for advanced search and navigation functionality.

What to expect in NCC 2022



Consistent Volume Structure (CVS)

- NCC 2022 has been reorganised to use a consistent structure across all volumes.
- Increased understanding of the NCC is achieved through a predictable and logical structure, resulting in a better user experience and assisting with compliance outcomes.
- A CVS aligns the NCC and supporting material with current language, styles and technical writing practices.
- It supports any future code expansion into areas such as gas fitting, electrical and telecommunications.

Redesign of the Information Architecture (IA)

- The uniform presentation of code content will allow for digitisation and future digital enhancements.
- The NCC as a 'single source of truth' will transform the code from static printed requirements into Regulatory Technology (RegTech).

- A consistent IA aids machine-readability, allowing software developers to integrate the NCC directly into value-add industry products, systems and apps – creating new products to increase efficiencies for practitioners.
- This allows for the publication of the NCC into multiple formats including print, PDF and multiple device-specific outputs (mobile, tablets, desktop displays, etc).

Improved readability

- In addition to improved usability through the CVS and redesigned IA, readability will be improved in NCC 2022 through a simplified clause structure.
- This also makes possible a redesign of the NCC Online, which will provide a cleaner interface and enhanced interactive features.
- New practitioners and non-technical readers will be able to easily access and comprehend the NCC, while experienced users will be supported through the transition with a series of change management initiatives.

The future of the NCC



- Consistency in volume structure, format and language improves understanding of the code, leading to greater adoption across industry.
- Enhanced features and a better user experience for NCC Online (such as the ability to filter contents based on a specific project's criteria) will encourage greater and more regular use of the NCC.
- Innovation through digitisation will stimulate new features and products, such as integration with value-add products used by industry.
- Digitisation also opens the door to enhanced education and training opportunities, further incentivising new entrants into the building and plumbing industries.

