

Compliance and Installation Certificates for Windows and Glazed Doors

With the introduction of the BCA 2009 in May last year, the requirements for manufacturing of windows to be used in high wind areas have changed.

Put simply, N3 is no longer the same as C1 and N4 is not longer the same as C2. Although many of the criteria are the same, the internal pressure coefficients in cyclonic areas are greater than that of non-cyclonic areas to allow for windows that may fail due to impact damage during a cyclone.

This is also applicable to glazed doors used in an external wall. Please see the following definition of a window from the BCA:

Window includes a roof light, glass panel, glass block or brick, glass louvre, glazed sash, **glazed door**, or other device which transmits natural light directly from outside a building to the room concerned when in the closed position.

What This Means for Window and Glazed Door Compliance Certificates and Window Labels

As has always been the case, Compliance Certificates are required for all windows, sliding glass doors and glazed doors installed into the external wall of a building.

The Compliance Certificate for windows and sliding glass doors must reference AS/NZS1170.2-2002, AS2047-1999 and AS1288-2006 along with the window rating (C1,C2 etc)

The Compliance Certificate for glazed doors must reference AS/NZS1170.2-2002 and AS1288-2006 along with the wind rating (C1, C2 etc.). AS2047-1999 does not cover glazed doors and therefore does not need to be referenced.

The compliance certificate for a glass shower screen only needs to reference AS1288-2006 as it will not be exposed to wind loads.

The labelling of windows as required under Section 8.2 of AS2047-1999 must also state the window rating as C1, C2 etc.

Window Installation

All windows, sliding glass and glazed doors need to be installed as per the manufacturer's specifications. As there is no Australian Standard for installing these components, it is up to the manufacturers to have their installation methods certified by an RPEQ structural engineer.

Windows must be installed by a QBSA licensed contractor with window installation within the scope of works covered by their license. We require an Installation Certificate in Form 16 format from the installer before a job can be finalised. This certification is to confirm the windows etc. have been installed in their correct locations and as per the manufacturer's installation specification. Installation certificates do not need to reference any Australian Standards just the appropriate manufacturer's specification.

The "Referenced Documentation" section on the Form 16 must state the manufacturer's specification. If we do not already have a copy of that manufacturer's specification, we will request a copy including the engineers Form 15.