

Built Environment

BULLETIN

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REVIEW OF THE FIRE PROTECTION PERMITTING SYSTEM

The Chief Officer has approved a review of the current process for permitting within the fire protection industry in Tasmania. Soon, you will receive formal correspondence requesting initial feedback on what should be considered as part of the review. This will have a feedback form and you will also receive a link to a survey where you can provide feedback online.

This will be the first of 2 stages of a request for feedback. Once we receive consultation feedback at the first stage, a discussion paper with key points for consideration from the industry and other stakeholders will be distributed for further comment. It is important to understand at this stage that we are seeking initial ideas on how we can identify improvements to regulating the industry and how we might be able to do this work moving forward.

CHANGES TO THE FORM SIXES IN THE CODE OF PRACTICE

Recently we updated several of the form sixes including form 6.2 and form 6.4 to assist technicians when installing new ASE's. Please ensure you use the current forms that are available on the [Tasmania Fire Service website](#). This is important because the changes to the forms impact the outcome with the programming of the ASE and how it is configured for Firecomm.

Please ensure form 6.1's is correctly filled out, including the address, and building details. It is important that the Building Surveyor and the building permit number are identified on the form 6.1. The building safety consultants can cross-reference the details with the building file to ensure that the fire safety systems have been referred to the Chief Officer in line with the legislative requirements.

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Tasmania Fire Service



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STORZ COUPLINGS

Please ensure when installing hydrant and booster systems that approved Storz couplings are used. TFS is still seeing couplings being used that do not comply with the Australian Standard. Even those couplings that claim to comply with the Australian Standard must still be shown on the [approved coupling guideline](#). If a coupling you are proposing to use is not on the approved coupling guideline, please contact the building safety unit who can then provide you with advice on how the coupling may be included on the approved list.

The current TFS guideline will be updated to reflect the requirements in AS 2419.4 – 2021. If you have any questions about the Storz coupling requirements please contact the building safety unit.

HYDRANT TEST RESULT SHEETS

The hydrant test result sheets have been updated and placed [online](#) for reference. TFS has developed a [guideline](#) to filling out and completing the test result sheets. Please refer to the guideline for specific information on how the hydrant test result sheets should be used.

There are changes required following the release of AS 2419.1 – 2021. The guideline will be updated soon to reflect those changes.

ROUTINE SERVICE RECORDS

Routine service of fire protection systems is an extremely important role of fire permit holders. Routine service of fire protection systems can only be carried out by a Permit Holder. Recently several premise audits have identified broad issues with routine service logbook entries, including inappropriate information and not identifying the service technician and the permit holder company. Logbooks must be completed in full, clearly identifying the service provider and all logbook entries must be clearly legible.

Additionally, the name of the Technician completing the servicing must be clearly printed and signed on the logbook AND any faults and/or non-compliances identified during the servicing must be clearly written and well documented. All routine service records must be in accordance with AS1851-2012.

Can Technical Nominees please communicate these requirements to your technicians. It is important for the purposes of audits and investigations that TFS can map back and clearly identify those that are undertaking the work and the issues and problems being identified and how they are informing the premise occupier to ensure they are rectified.

Defects with fire protection systems must be reported in line with the requirements in the Fire Protection Systems Code of Practice, Section 8.3.

PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS FOR LITHIUM-ION BATTERY FIRES

Retail and wholesale outlets are now selling portable fire safety extinguishers that claim to be for the purpose of extinguishing lithium-ion battery fires. Tasmania Fire Service do not support the selling of any portable fire extinguisher that claim to be specifically for use on lithium-ion battery fires that are not tested and approved as per the Australian Standards.

Tasmania Fire Service has developed a guideline on the use of portable fire extinguishers on lithium-ion battery fires.

The guideline clearly outlines the position of the Tasmania Fire Service on the selection and use of fire extinguishers for lithium battery fires. Please read the [guideline](#) for additional information.

FPAA FORUM –

MAKING SENSE OF FIRE ENGINEERING AND KNOWING WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR IT

Fire engineered building performance solutions are an increasingly common component of a building's design and construction. However, they introduce many challenges for fire industry contractors, building owners, and managers. While designers use performance solutions as a more cost effective and fit for purpose way of complying with the requirements of the National Construction Code (NCC) the proposed designs can occasionally be difficult to understand, poorly documented or both.

Complicating this issue is the fact that different roles are regulated under different pieces of legislation which means that responsibilities may not always be clear.

The FPAA will be running a seminar where they will be discussing some of the issues that have been witnessed with fire engineered performance solutions and how different parties can manage them appropriately. The forum will also examine different roles covered within the licensing and permit spectrum in Tasmania discussing what different practitioners need to do to ensure they work within the scope of their role and comply with the legislation.

The forum will be held on Wednesday the 19th of July 2023 between 1:00 PM and 5:00 PM at the Tasmania Fire Service complex 1040 Cambridge Road, Cambridge.

[Registration link](#)