

To:

Licensees / Contractors / the Plumbing and Drainage Industry

From:

PIAS, Better Regulation Division, Parramatta

Date:

May 2021

Subject:

Installation requirements of temperature control devices

Scope:

Applies to all Metropolitan and Regional areas in New South Wales

Issue:

NOTE: IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION FOR THE FITTING OF A TEMPERATURE CONTROL DEVICE (TEMPERING VALVE OR THERMOSTATIC MIXING VALVE)

In the PCA, part B2 Heated Water Services, the deemed to satisfy provisions state that;

The design, construction, installation, replacement repair, alteration and maintenance of a heated water service must be in accordance with AS/NZS 3500.4.

Therefore, when **replacing** an existing hot water heater (**like for like**), the sanitary fixture delivery temperature **shall comply** with AS/NZS3500.4:2018 Heated Water Services, Clause 1.11.2 Sanitary Fixtures delivery temperature. (A temperature control device must be installed)

Examples of when temperature control devices MUST BE installed are;

- A. Replacing a hot water heater - **regardless** of the type of heater or location of the heater.
- B. When doing new hot water pipe work on an extension, all **NEW** work is required to be tempered. **NOTE:** All existing hot water pipe work can remain unchanged.
- C. When temperature touch pads are being installed, (Touch pads **are not** an approved temperature control device)

Examples of when a temperature control device is NOT required;

- A. When there is a factory pre-set hot water unit being installed that supplies ablution areas (eg: bathrooms). This excludes healthcare and aged care buildings, early childhood centres, primary and secondary schools and nursing homes or similar facilities for the aged, the sick, children or people with disabilities etc.
Refer to AS/NZS3500.4:2018 1.11.2 Sanitary fixtures delivery temperature
- B. When doing maintenance only on the valves to a heater (eg: replacing duo valve, control valves and the like, or TPR valves etc)

Note: In all other areas other than ablutions, there are no temperature requirements, but it is **highly recommended you discuss any requirements with your customer, BEFORE** any installation work takes place

Reference:

AS NZS 3500.4:2018 Plumbing and Drainage, Part 4 Heated Water Services
Plumbing Code of Australia 2019 Part B2

To help clarify when a temperature control device is require to be installed refer to the following chart

Heated water supply replacement/additions scenario	Temperature Control Device Required	Additional Comment
Replacement of an existing heater with [like for like]new heater	yes	
Replacement of an existing heater with an alternate model ,size or heat source	yes	
Repositioning of an existing heater to a new location	yes	
Replacement of any associated valves, elements thermostats etc	no	Excludes the replacement of any existing temperature control device
Replacement of all of the heaters that are installed in a manifold system	yes	
Replacement of one or more heaters, but not all of the heaters in a manifold multiple bank of heaters	no	
Replacement of a heater unit where currently a touch pad temperature control unit is installed	yes	
A newly built ablution areas, connecting to the existing heated water supply, but no work is carried out on the existing heater and there is no existing temperature control device installed	yes	Only the new ablution points installed are required to be tempered but the whole of system maybe tempered
Replacement of an existing plumbing fixture or fitting and there is no existing temperature control device	no	example: replacement of a basin tap
Replacement of all fixtures within an existing bathroom and the existing heated water supply has no temperature control device installed	yes	Only the replaced ablution points installed are required to be tempered but the whole of system maybe tempered Note: Applies to bathroom renovation including the replacement and or repositioning of fixtures and fittings
Replacement of solar collection panel only	no	

Contact:

This technical note has been approved for issue by the PIAS Technical Review Committee. Information contained within this document is current as at May 2021 and refers to codes and standards current at the time of writing.

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