APPLICATION OF THE NT DEEMED TO COMPLY MANUAL

A number of enquiries have arisen on the correct use of the NT Deemed to Comply Manual. The purpose of this Building Note is to clarify how the manual must be applied.

The NT Deemed to Comply Manual (DTCM) is referenced in the National Construction Code, Volume 2, Part 3.10.1 as an acceptable construction manual for high wind areas. The DTCM contains products and systems which have been assessed for structural adequacy for cyclonic wind loads which have been approved by the NT Building Advisory Committee. The approved drawings in the DTCM can be accepted by architects, builders, building certifiers, designers, engineers etc. as complying with the structural requirements of the NT Building Act.

Products and systems in the DTCM are subjected to rigorous design review and/or laboratory testing which demonstrates the required structural performance under specific conditions as detailed on the DTCM sheets. These conditions include product specifications, spacing, fasteners and the brand of the products used.

The installation of products/systems must be in full accordance with the specifications in the relevant DTCM sheet. Particular attention should be paid to ensure the correct fastenings specified on the DTCM sheet (type, screw length, brand) are used.

The DTCM sheet also includes limitations on where the sheet may be applied. These limitations will need to be assessed by the user when applying the DTCM sheet as an acceptable construction method.

Any departure from the specifications in the DTCM sheets will render the application of the sheet void. In these cases a Section 40 Design Certificate from a NT registered Structural Engineer will be required to approve any substitution or other departure from the sheet. The Section 40 will need to be provided to the Building Certifier certifying the works.

If further clarification is required on the application of the DTCM sheet you should contact your Building Certifier or Design Engineer before under taking the works.

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