



Coms Cabling Regulations & Standards Update

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Standards Update

By
Standards Australia

AS/NZS ISO/IEC 15018:200X Information technology—Generic cabling for homes

The Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand committee CT-001 *Communications Cabling* has recently released for public comment and ballot, a revised Standard directly impinging on the cabling industry. It supersedes AS/NZS 3086:1996.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from, ISO/IEC 15018:2004, *Information technology—Generic cabling for homes*.

ISO/IEC 15018:2004 was prepared by an ISO/IEC international Standards Committee which involved active participation and contribution from the members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CT-001, Communications Cabling.

This Standard specifies generic cabling for homes. A home may contain one or more buildings or may be within a building that contains more than one home. It specifies a generic cabling for three groups of applications:

- Information and Communications Technologies (ICT);
- Broadcast and Communications Technologies (BCT);
- Commands, Controls and Communications in Buildings (CCCB).

This standard specifies a generic cabling infrastructure based upon balanced cabling and/or coaxial cabling. ICT channels specified in this standard include optical fibre. The wider use of fibre optical cabling in a home is for further study.

Generic cabling realised according to this standard:

- a) allows deployment of a wide range of applications without changes to the fixed cabling infrastructure;
- b) provides a platform to support moves, adds and changes of connectivity. This standard provides:
 - users with an application-independent generic cabling for applications run in homes;
 - users with a flexible cabling scheme such that changes are both easy and economical;
 - building professionals (for example, architects) with guidance for accommodating cabling
 - before specific requirements are known, i.e. in the initial planning either for construction or refurbishment;
 - industry and applications standardisation bodies (e.g. ITU-T, ISO and IEC) with a cabling system that supports current products and provides a basis for future product development in home electronic systems;
 - users, designers and manufacturers of application-specific cabling systems with advice on interfacing to this generic cabling;
 - suppliers of cabling components and installers of cabling with relevant requirements;

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Standards (Cont).....

- service providers with a distribution system for their services.

Although safety (electrical, Fire, etc) and given in this electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) requirements are outside the scope of this Standard and are covered by other standards and regulations, information given in this Standard may be of assistance in meeting these requirements.

Contact John Ward, Chairman, Standards Australia Committee CT-001: Communications Cabling, at jamsam@cyber.net.au or Bala Balakrishnan, A/g General Manager, Business Information and Technology Division, Standards Australia International at bala.balakrishnan@standards.org.au

Regulations by ACA

ACA invites industry comment on Cabling Provider Rules review

The ACA is reviewing the cabling provider rules to ensure they keep pace with changes in industry conditions.

The cabling provider rules were introduced in October 2000 as part of the ACA's objective of promoting greater self-regulation in the cabling industry. They were jointly developed by the industry and the ACA.

The rules are based on an industry-managed national cabling registration scheme and are designed to ensure that cabling work is performed safely and protects the telecommunications network. The rules apply to individuals performing customer cabling in the

communications, security, fire and data sectors.

The ACA has released a discussion paper to canvass with industry some of the central issues relevant to the review. These issues include:

- the areas of cabling work covered by the rules;
- the types of registration categories under the rules; and
- the application of the supervision requirements under the rules.

Submissions about the issues raised in the discussion paper close on **Tuesday, 30 November 2004**. The ACA would welcome submissions from cablers.

For more information about the review see the ACA website at www.aca.gov.au under Telecommunications, Cabling or contact the ACA's Customer Cabling Team on telephone (03) 9963 6800.

Licensing and cabler registration

Only 12 months left for those cablers with a current ACA cabling licence.

The industry managed registration system which replaced the old ACA cabler licensing system has been phasing in since October 2000 and will be complete when the last licence expires in October 2005.

Cablers need to register with an ACA accredited registrar PRIOR to their current licence expiring. If you hold a current cabling licence, you are automatically eligible for registration under the industry managed registration scheme (no further training required).

Performing cabling work without a current licence or registration is an offence under the Telecommunications Act.

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