

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Wet area membranes

AS/NZS 4858:2004

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee BD-038, Wet Areas in Buildings. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 7 April 2004 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 2 April 2004. It was published on 15 April 2004.

The following are represented on Committee BD-038:

Architectural Aluminium Fabricators Association (NSW)
Australian Building Codes Board
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Australian Consumers Association
Australian Institute of Building Surveyors
Australian Tile Council Inc.
Building Industry Authority NZ
Business New Zealand
CSIRO Manufacturing and Infrastructure Technology
Federation of Wall and Ceiling Industries Australia and New Zealand
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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

RECONFIRMATION

OF
AS/NZS 4858:2004
Wet area membranes

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NOTES

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee BD-038, Wet Areas in Buildings.

The objective of this Standard is to classify membranes based on elastic properties which can then be used to give guidance on the type of detailing for a specific membrane referred to in AS 3740, *Waterproofing of wet areas within residential buildings*. This detailing, in relating to the elastic properties of the membrane being used, will assist an installation in meeting the performance requirements of AS 3740.

The test methods referenced herein are derived from documents published from either Standards Australia or ASTM, with the acceptance criteria being listed in this publication. These criteria were not previously given in an Australian Standard.

Bond failures can occur through the full tiling system to the substrate, which includes the waterproofing membrane where it forms part of the system. This failure can be a result of bond and/or shear failure between components or within a single component of the overall tiling system. The BD-038 committee considered the best way to address a comprehensive test to determine satisfactory performance against this type of failure was to propose the formation of a joint working party between BD-038 and BD-041 committees as both the properties of membranes and the tiling adhesives contribute to the overall performance of the whole tiling system against this type of failure. As the development of such a test will take some time, BD-038 considered that this Standard should be published in its current state rather than wait for the development of test methods by the working party. The BD-038 committee will consider the findings of the proposed working party in the ongoing review of the standard.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD**Wet area membranes****1 SCOPE**

This Standard sets out the performance and general test requirements for waterproof membranes as defined in AS 3740.

The Standard does not apply to metal shower trays, preformed shower bases or exposed membranes.

The Standard may also be applied to waterproof membranes used in non-residential buildings.

2 APPLICATION

This Standard applies to buildings throughout Australia and New Zealand and is intended for use by manufacturers, suppliers and specifiers of waterproofing membranes, and appraisal bodies.

The Standard may also serve as a useful reference document for residential property owners and managers.

3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

1145 Determination of tensile properties of plastics materials

1145.3 Part 3: Test conditions for film and sheets

3558 Methods of testing plastics and composite materials sanitary plumbing and fixtures

3558.1 Part 1: Determination of water absorption characteristics

3740 Waterproofing wet areas within residential buildings

ASTM

E 96 Standard test methods for water vapour transmission of materials

4 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions below apply.

4.1 Sheet membranes**4.1.1 Loose laid**

A membrane sheet that is not bonded to the substrate.

4.1.2 Bonded

A membrane sheet that is bonded to the substrate.