

# Incorporate Fire fighter life safety in buildings into the Building Code of Australia (BCA).

Progress Report No: 2



Date: 14 February 2011  
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| SUMMARY        |                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Financials     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Schedule       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Issues & Risks | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

## What has been delivered since last report:

AFAC's position is that the BCA deals with minimum necessary regulation for life safety for occupants; State Acts require fire-fighters to take measures to save life and property; the fire-ground is recognised as a workplace for OH&S purposes, consequently, fire-fighters are legitimate occupants of a building during a fire and so should in principle be afforded appropriate protection. The ABCB only recognises the first part of this argument to the extent that it should bind the BCA

NSWFB agreed to second Ben Hughes-Brown, Senior Fire Engineer, to the ABCB one day per week for an initial period of 3 months to address the broader fire-fighter safety issue

### Key Issues:

- Getting acknowledgement by ABCB that fire-fighters are occupants for purposes of determining safety in building code
- Clarity on quantifying performance requirements for fire-fighter safety based on principle of avoiding unexpected catastrophic failure in buildings subject to fire
- Consideration of AFAC position on proposed resolution of AS 2118 Standard V ABCB Life Safety Sprinkler Code

Ben has since left the employment of the Fire and Rescue NSW however is currently completing an interim report which is expected to be completed in in March 2011.

## What is being planned for next period:

Next step is to review report with Ray Loveridge and Brian Ashe, ABCB, and find someone to continue contingent on nature of unfinished work

This will be an ongoing project until fire fighter life safety in buildings is incorporated into the Building Code of Australia and the above key issues are considered

## Issues:

Benjamin Hughes Brown announced his resignation from Fire and Rescue NSW at the end of 2010 however a significant amount of work was achieved before he left.

## Consultation:

Built Environment Sub Group/Fire Engineering Sub Group and ABCB are currently all involved in the

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consultation

### Financials

| Phase | Planned Budget: | Actual To Date: | Estimate At Completion: |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 1     | \$              | \$              | \$                      |
| 2     | \$              | \$              | \$                      |
| Total | \$              | \$              | \$                      |

### Schedule

| Phase | Milestones | Status | Base Start | Actual Start | Base Finish | Actual Finish |
|-------|------------|--------|------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1     | 1.         |        |            |              |             |               |
| 1     | 2.         |        |            |              |             |               |
| 1     | 3.         |        |            |              |             |               |
| 1     | 4.         |        |            |              |             |               |
| 2     | 5.         |        |            |              |             |               |
| 2     | 6.         |        |            |              |             |               |
| 2     | 7.         |        |            |              |             |               |

### Variations to the project:

There is no variation to this project however the resignation of the appointed secondee by Fire and Rescue NSW may cause some delay until a new person is appointed

### Project Management Contact

Project Owner: Greg Buckley, Fire and Rescue NSW

Project Manager: Rob Llewellyn

Project Team: Built Environment Sub Group & The Fire Engineering Project Group