



2 September 2025

National Competition Policy Analysis 2025

Response to the Interim Report: Standards reform to lower barriers to domestic and international trade.

Australasian Corrosion Association Inc (ACA) Follow-Up Submission

To Whom it May Concern

The ACA would like to make a follow-up submission in response to your Interim Report based on our interests in appropriate standards for corrosion control.

Firstly, thank you for your interim report, the data regarding the alignment of Australian Standards with international standards is very helpful. Overall, the ACA supports your recommendations regarding standards.

After liaising internally, we would like to provide you with the following comments for context and weighting of your recommendations:

1. The National Construction Code – Access to Mandated Standards
 - Some of the Australian Standards are referenced in the NCC and form part of the NCC (while other standards are stated as “informative” rather than mandated).
 - The mandated standards that form an integral part of the NCC, should be accessible free of charge, like any mandated legislation. This will provide wider access to the mandated requirements, leading to lesser defective work on construction sites.
2. Repeal of Australian Standards
 - Repealing Australian standards that have unnecessarily deviated from international equivalents should be made easier.
3. Lowering Barriers to Adopting International Standards
 - Lowering barriers to adopting international standards via consultation and reform would be beneficial. For example, In the waterproofing industry there are no Australian standards for below ground waterproofing (corrosion adjacent). So, industry often adopts BS 8102:2009. Having this be formally adopted as acceptable use in Australia would add value and clarity.
 - If an international standard doesn't reflect Australian conditions, there should be the ability to adopt supplements for additional guidance in certain conditions for eg. Coatings applied in high heat & humidity.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your report.

Your sincerely

Maree Tetlow
CEO