

5 June 2025

National Competition Policy Analysis 2025
Australasian Corrosion Association Inc Submission

To Whom it May Concern

The Australasian Corrosion Association Inc (ACA) is writing to support the ongoing improvement and increased efficiency of Australian Standards as managed by Standards Australia.

The ACA supports the Standards Australia position as attached.
In addition, we would provide the following context to provide greater insight:

1. Coating-related Standards (example)

Many standards for this sector are now old and need updating. The ACA would like to see a balance where global standards that exist for our industry are reviewed and if found to be applicable, our local standard is retired and the global standard adopted. This would make specifications written for overseas construction easier to understand by the overseas fabricator and lead to less confusion and sometimes, conflict.

However, the ACA is opposed to a system where an overseas standard is automatically adopted because the subject matter is similar to an existing Australian Standard. The Australian Standards Committees of experts (ACA expert volunteers actively participate in relevant committees) are qualified to review the similarities and whether an Australian Standard is required based on our specific environment and conditions. If a global standard is found to be applicable, our local standard should be retired and the global standard should be adopted.

2. Cost of Standards

The ACA is supportive of ensuring access to Standards are reduced in cost to improve their use and implementation. The goal should be to ensure the voluntary use of a Standard whenever possible and having the trades and specifiers using the standards is essential to achieving an improvement in quality and consistency. The ACA is aware that in other international markets, standards are much cheaper to access, and Standards Australia is working on initiatives to address this issue. We would encourage a fast-track of decreasing the cost and access of standards in Australia.

In General:

The ACA supports the Standards Australia submission (attached), whilst requesting the fast-tracking of the decrease in cost of standards access, especially for smaller businesses and tradespeople.

Your sincerely

Maree Tetlow
CEO