

## Plumbing Solutions – edition 1

### Inspections

Inspections are conducted to ensure plumbing installations are performed in a competent manner and comply with AS/NZS 3500 Standards.

#### Inspection Booking Procedure

All drainage, underfloor, above ground plumbing (stack work) for residential plumbing and all plumbing for Industrial and Commercial jobs must be booked in for inspection.

#### How to make a Booking

Bookings can be made between 8.30am and 3pm on the working day prior to when the inspection is required. Book your inspection by calling SA Water's Customer Contact Centre on 1300 884 055 or on-line at [plumbooking.sawater.com.au](http://plumbooking.sawater.com.au)

#### Frequently Asked Questions

*Q: How do I know if my job will be inspected?*

A: Your job may or may not be selected for inspection. However all pipework must be clearly visible and under test at the time you have specified for the inspection.

*Q: How long do I have to wait for the inspector before I can backfill and cover pipework?*

A: If we don't arrive within 20 minutes after the time you have booked for inspection, you can test, and backfill the work. The Certificate of Completion and Compliance and the house drainage drawing must be forwarded to SA Water and the owner/occupier within 7 days of completing the job.

#### Common Problems found at Inspections

Drain and waste pipes are backfilled before they are filled with water. This may result in structural damage to the building as a result of leakage should the pipes and fittings crack or break when being backfilled.

Drain and waste pipes are too close to the edge of the footings. They should be laid away from the footing where they can be supported and covered with soil. If that can not be achieved they must be wrapped and supported as required by a qualified Engineer.

Incorrect grades on drains and waste pipes. Grades on drains and waste pipes shall comply with table 3.2 and table 6.3 AS/NZS 3500.2.2003

## An example of a Non-Complying Underfloor Plumbing Installation

This photograph shows a section of underfloor plumbing installation that is inadequately supported and has been located so that it is impracticable to provide a minimum cover of 25mm separation between the discharge pipe and the reinforced concrete slab (refer Clause 3.7.4 AS/NZS 3500.2:2003).

A technical solution to address this issue would be to:

1. Relocate the discharge pipe away from the edge of the footing to achieve both adequate support and separation;

or where this option is impracticable

2. Lag the graded discharge pipe between the pipe and the reinforced concrete slab. If the discharge pipe is not on solid ground it will be required to be supported adequately (Engineer approval for Option 2 may be necessary).



## An example of a Complying Underfloor Plumbing Installation

This photograph shows a section of underfloor plumbing installation.

Please note that the discharge pipe is offset from the edge of the footing and is now fully supported on the pad.



If you have any questions about inspections or the AS/NZS 3500 Plumbing and Drainage Standards or alternatively, if you would like copies of this or various editions of Plumbing Solutions, please contact Plumbooking on (08) 7424 1360 or email [plumbooking@sawater.com.au](mailto:plumbooking@sawater.com.au)

We welcome your feedback. If you have any comments about Plumbing Solutions, or wish to suggest some topics to be covered in future editions please send us an email to [plumbooking@sawater.com.au](mailto:plumbooking@sawater.com.au)