

(The Code clause and table references given below apply to Part 2 and Part 3 unless specifically noted)

Background

Part of the intent of the changes that were made to bracing wall bottom plate fixings in Amendment 4 to AS 1684, were to remove inconsistencies and anomalies between Part 2/3 and Part 4.

Prior to the amendments, Part 4 permitted lesser bottom plate fixings for some bracing walls.

Discussion

Unfortunately, the correction in Parts 2 and 3 for one hardboard bracing wall system, (**Page 144 Table 8.18, Item (I)**) was overlooked. The correction in Part 4 was however implemented.

For bracing walls rated up to 3.4 kN/m in Part 2 and Part 3, the fixing of the bottom plate to floor frame or slab, was amended to require nominal fixing only.

Recommendation

Until formal amendments can be processed through the Standards Australia AS 1684 Committee, it is recommended that hardboard bracing in accordance with **Part 2, Page 144, Table 8.18 Item (I) and Part 3, Page 140, Table 8.18 Item (I)** be accepted as requiring the bottom plates to be nominally fixed to the floor frame or slab (see **AS 1684 Table 9.4**).

This will then reflect the intended changes to Parts 2, 3 and 4.

Technical Advice

Further technical information and assistance is available from the following Timber Advisory Services.

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