



DOES YOUR INSULATION CONFORM?

What to check when specifying, supplying, and installing insulation products.

Guidance from the Insulation Council of Australia and New Zealand.

Non-conforming products can lead to expensive rectification work, project delays, voided insurance, and reputational damage. Everyone involved in the supply chain is responsible for ensuring the selection, procurement and installation of a compliant product - this includes manufacturers, specifiers, purchasers, and installers.

What is a non-conforming product?

The Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) defines non-conforming building products as those that:

- claim to be something they are not;
- do not meet required standards for their intended use;
- are marketed or supplied with the intent to deceive those who use them.

What are your obligations?

If you are involved in the specification, supply or installation of a product, you must ensure that the product conforms with the requirements of the project specification and National Construction Code (NCC) and Australian workplace Standards (where specified).

For insulation products, this means you must confirm and ensure that the product meets the following:

- Declared compliance with AS4859.1 in accordance with the NCC.
- Suitability of use for the intended purpose or application.
- Declaration of safe-handling advice or bio-soluble formulation declaration.

Specific product conformance checks

Check product labelling meets the mandatory labelling information for AS/NZS for 4859.1, which contains:

- Manufacturer/Supplier Name and Address
- Batch number/traceability information
- Conformance statement referencing AS/NZS 4859.1
- Declared R-value stated and the tested temperature
- Safety guidance information
- Check that any claims of product conformance are verifiable with the supply of full test reports or assessments, and installation instructions.

If the product includes CodeMark Certification, then check the product specified has a current listing for the intended use on the JASANZ website

<https://register.jasanz.org/codemark-register>

Safety first – is the product safe-to-use and bio-soluble?

- Check whether the product declares that it is non-hazardous and bio-soluble – look for the ICANZ FBS-1 logo

If it doesn't, then request verifiable evidence that supports this declaration.

Products carrying this logo have been verified as safe-to-use bio-soluble – for further information check that the product and plant is listed on the ICANZ FBS-1 website <https://icanz.org.au/fibre-biosolubility/>

If evidence of bio-solubility cannot be provided, then it may be deemed as hazardous and listed in the Workplace Exposure Standard (WES) 2025.

- Check that the product packaging contains hazard labelling in accordance with the Global Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling (GHS).
- Check that the Safety Data Sheet contains required hazardous information and pictograms.
- Communicate this issue to the manufacturer or distributor.

Watch out for substitutions or imitations

Some products may 'look' similar to associate themselves with more reputable products in order to avoid verifying compliance – not checking, is no excuse for installing a non-conforming product.

Everyone in the product supply chain is responsible - If you can't verify it - don't purchase it and never install it.

