

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Bushfire Safety Technical Advisory Committee (TAC/20)

3 December 2010

TAC/20 – previously the Bushfire Planning and Design Special Interest Group (BPAD/SIG) –has interests in the protection of life, property and the environment from bushfires through education, certification, standardisation and regulatory processes for the assessment, planning and management of construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas.

This committee provides a forum for discussion between practitioners, fire services and regulators on the design and construction of property in bush fire prone areas.

TAC/20 (as the BPAD SIG) has been heavily involved in the development of FPA Australia's Bushfire Planning and Design (BPAD) Certification Program. The BPAD certification identifies individuals and businesses that meet criteria based on competency requirements. It also contributes to the planning and development of building legislation for the relevant State or Territory and the Building Code of Australia.

This committee has representation on behalf of FPA Australia to the Standards Australia FP-020 Construction in Bushfire Prone Areas committee as well as the Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre (Bushfire CRC).

Key Functions:

- Establishing a recognised practitioner competency.
- Input into improvement in land and asset management to mitigate bushfires.
- Input into improvement in emergency action plans to address personal and property protection.
- Be aware of all legislation, regulations, codes, Australian Standards, and other publications that relate to the protection of life, property and the environment from bushfire.
- Provide input into the development of Australian Standard 3959 and other Standards relating to design and construction in bush fire prone areas.
- Be a forum within which practitioners, fire services and regulators can discuss matters that relate to design and construction in bush fire prone areas.
- Provide guidance on technical and application matters relating to design and construction in bush fire prone areas to FPA Australia, TACs and SIGs.
- Provide review and development to the BPAD Certification Program.
- Review FPA Australia's relevant bushfire educational material and recommend the development of supporting documents (e.g. data sheets) when the need is identified.
- Assist with the preparation of articles for publications such as FireTalk and the Fire Australia Journal on matters relating to protection of life, property and the environment from bushfires.

- Assist the community in understanding bushfire safety through education and training with respect to issues of design and construction in bushfire prone areas.
- Report to NTAC on key issues, recommendations, and request advice.
- Provide advice and support improvements in active and passive products for use in design in bushfire prone areas.
- Create a data base of active and passive fire protection products that have been certified for use in Bushfire Prone Areas.

Secondary Roles:

- Promote the flow of information related to the protection of life, property and the environment from bushfire to FPA Australia members.
- Provide a forum to bring members with allied interests together.
- Work cooperatively with relevant external groups.
- Provide information about seminars and conferences relative to the industry, which should be considered by FPA Australia.
- Run bushfire related seminars or workshops on subjects of interest to FPA Australia members.

Interrelationships:

- FPA Australia Head Office
- National Technical Advisory Committee (NTAC)
- TAC/4/8/9 Fire Sprinkler Systems and Hydrants
- TAC/18 Fire Safety
- TAC/19 Passive Fire Protection
- FP-004 Automatic Fire Sprinkler Installations
- FP-018 Fire Safety
- FP -017 Emergency Planning
- FP-019 Passive Fire Protection
- FP-020 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire-prone Areas
- Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre (Bushfire CRC)
- University of Western Sydney (UWS)

Approved by FPA Australia Board of Directors 21 October 2010